

Ulus starts talks in Tehran

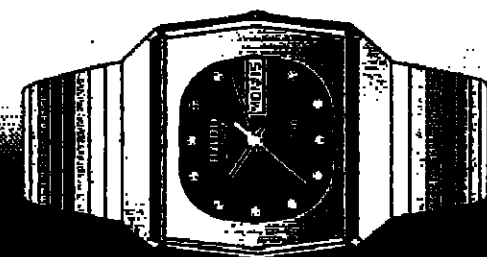
LONDON (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulus arrived in Tehran Friday on an official visit during which he is expected to mediate in the Iran-Iraq war, Iran's national news agency IRNA reported. Mr. Ulus, who is heading a six-man delegation, met Iranian President Ali Khamenei soon after his arrival, Tehran Radio said but gave no details of what was discussed. Commenting on Mr. Ulus's visit to Tehran, Prime Minister Hossein Mousavi said Thursday Iran would not budge from its terms for ending the war, casting doubt on any chance of success by the Turkish leader in his search for a peaceful settlement of the conflict. Several attempts by various international delegations to end the Gulf war have all failed mainly because of Iran's refusal to negotiate with Iraqi leaders.

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Peres urges Begin to negotiate for 'Jordan-Palestine' state

NEW YORK (R) — Israel's opposition leader Shimon Peres urged his country Friday to seize the initiative on the Palestinian question and offer to renounce some occupied Arab lands for a "Jordanian-Palestinian state." The leader of Israel's Labour Party, repeating calls for a peaceful settlement of the Lebanon conflict, said in an article in the New York Times that no war could solve the question. Indeed, the two-month-old war had made certain nobody push aside the question any longer, Mr. Peres said. "I believe that this is the time for Israel to initiate a new plan to solve the Palestinian issue in way that would ensure the survival of Israel," he said. Prime Minister Menachem Begin, he said, should seek talks with Jordan and Palestinians "who do not seek the destruction of Israel," possibly bringing in Egypt and the United States. He said the aim would be the most simple and promising solution of "a Jordanian-Palestinian state that will be based upon territorial compromise in the West Bank and Gaza." Israeli-Egyptian talks on granting the Palestinians "autonomy" have been stalled since 1980 and Mr. Peres said mere "autonomy" would not settle the issue anyway. But he said a Jordanian-Palestinian state made sense "as Jordan itself embraces a Palestinian majority today and almost all inhabitants of the West Bank hold Jordanian passports."

Jakarta offers haven for Palestinians

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia could provide sanctuary for Palestinians surrounded in Beirut by Israeli forces, Minister of Religious Affairs Alamsyah Prawiranegara was quoted as saying Thursday. The minister said if no Arab countries would take the Palestinians, Indonesia could provide a place for them on one of its 13,000 islands. "This must first be discussed with the president but I am sure he would agree," he said. A spokesman for President Suharto declined to comment on the statement, made Wednesday night to Islamic representatives from Sumatra, but a palace official said: "They are a long way from here, are they not?"

Japan raps Israel

TOKYO (R) — Japan has strongly condemned Israel for its latest thrust into west Beirut and urged it to withdraw its troops from Lebanon. "The invasion of west Beirut by Israel, which started on Aug. 3, impairs peace efforts being made by the parties concerned," said Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakuruchi in a statement. "The government of Japan can never condone such an act and strongly condemns Israel," he added.

USS Independence heads for Lebanon

NAPLES (R) — The United States aircraft carrier Independence left Naples Friday after a 24-hour stopover and port sources said it was heading for Lebanon. American naval authorities said the carrier, part of the U.S. Sixth Fleet based at Naples, was bound for the open sea but declined to give further details. The Independence has 5,000 men and 90 aircraft on board, the sources said.

League optimistic on Arab summit

TUNIS (R) — An urgent Arab summit on the Israeli-Palestinian war in Lebanon will be prepared by a meeting of foreign ministers in Tunis next week if there is a sufficient response to invitations, Arab League sources here said Friday. The summit proposed by North and South Yemen so far has the support of Syria, Bahrain, Somalia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia also favours it, the sources said.



His Majesty King Hussein Thursday receives North Yemeni Information Minister Hassan Al Lawzi and South Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Wahid Fari. From left to right: Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, Mr. Fari, and the North Yemeni minister (Petra photo)

King, Yemeni envoys discuss Arab summit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court on Thursday North Yemeni Information Minister Hassan Al Lawzi and the director of the Arab department at the Foreign Ministry of South Yemen Abdul Wahid Fari, who conveyed a joint message to King Hussein on convening an urgent Arab summit conference to discuss the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. They also briefed the King on the results of the talks which the two presidents had in Saudi Arabia and Syria last week.

King Hussein explained to the envoys of the two Yemens Jordan's support for convening an Arab summit to discuss the various aspects of the Palestinian issue and the Israeli aggression on Lebanon as well as all the developments and repercussions resulting from it. King Hussein also emphasised that the agenda of the summit should include the Iranian aggression on Iraq, inter-Arab relations and the adoption of a joint Arab political stand towards all forms of aggression

against the Arab Nation, proceeding from the fact that the Israeli aggression on Lebanon and the developments of the Palestinian issue are inseparable. King Hussein also asserted the significance of building Arab solidarity on clear and frank basis so that it might not be shaken every now and then as is evident from the general Arab situation which is suffering from the incapacity to confront the Israeli aggression on the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Court, the information minister and Foreign Ministry secretary general. The two envoys left Amman for Baghdad Thursday evening to deliver a similar message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Mr. Lawzi said prior to departure from Amman airport that their meeting with King Hussein was successful and encouraging for the Yemeni efforts to convene an Arab summit. He expressed hope that all Arab leaders would be as responsive as Jordan.

Soviet parliamentary team arrives on four-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by Ivan Kebim, vice-chairman of the Supreme Soviet Praesidium, arrived in Amman on Friday for a four-day visit to Jordan during which it will meet with high-ranking Jordanian officials.

Mr. Kebim told the correspondent of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, at arrival in Amman Airport that he will have talks with Jordanian officials on the developments of the situation in the area in the aftermath of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and ways of establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East. Mr. Kebim condemned the "barbaric Israeli aggression on the Lebanese and Palestinian people." He said this aggression was denounced and condemned in all parts of the world, and that it places Israel outside the international community and its principles represented in the United Nations Charter and resolutions. "History will have a harsh judgement against the barbaric tactics Israel is using in its invasion of Lebanon," he said.

Mr. Kebim said that the Soviet

people have strongly denounced the "genocide being committed by the Zionist invading army against the Palestinian and Lebanese people." He called for effective measures to put an end to aggression and to ensure the withdrawal of the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon. He also affirmed that the Soviet leadership has showed constant interest in the developments in the area in the aftermath of the Israeli invasion. He said President Leonid Brezhnev has more than once condemned the Israeli invasion and demanded an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces and halting the "war of genocide" against the Lebanese and Palestinian people.

Upper House of Parliament Speaker Bahjat Talhouni, who met the delegation at the airport, expressed appreciation for Soviet support of Arab rights and causes, particularly the Palestinian cause. He said Israel's "aggression on Lebanon and the insistence of the Zionist invasion forces to kill civilians was strongly denounced throughout the world, particularly by the friendly countries," including the Soviet Union.

Qadhafi tries to salvage OAU summit

TRIPOLI (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi had talks Friday with radical African leaders in an attempt to save from complete collapse a summit meeting of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), stalled by a bitter political dispute.

The scheduled four-day conference should have started Thursday but remained blocked because of a boycott by some 18 moderate countries, a minority of the 51 members but enough to prevent the required two-thirds quorum of 34.

While Col. Qadhafi tried to salvage the summit, other efforts were under way to resolve the deadlock, which has no precedent in the OAU's 19-year history and could lead to a deep and lasting split in the organisation.

At issue was the admission to the OAU in February of the rad-

ical Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), formed by the Polisario guerrillas fighting Moroccan control of the Western Sahara.

Some states have also said they planned to boycott the Tripoli meeting because of what they called Libyan interference in other African countries' internal affairs.

Some 30 heads of state, government chiefs or their representatives were present Friday, four short of a quorum.

With deadlock persisting on what should have been the summit's second working day, the feeling was growing that it should be postponed, conference sources said.

This would give the moderate and radical groups more time to meet privately and find a solution to the Polisario dispute, possibly

Israelis reject calls for restraint; PLO, Habib close to agreement

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel, brushing aside American and U.N. appeals, said Friday it would not ease the siege of Beirut and launched fresh air strikes on the Lebanese capital.

An army spokesman said the raids on a Palestinian target were in retaliation for ceasefire violations by the commandos. He gave no other details.

Underlining the tough stand taken at a cabinet meeting Thursday night, the Foreign Ministry issued a new threat to remove the Palestinian fighters in Beirut by force.

Instead of heeding Washington's call to pull back its forces, Israel would try to convince the U.S. it had to keep the military option alive, a spokesman said.

Friday's attacks were the first Israeli air raid on Beirut since Wednesday. President Reagan had appealed to Israel to halt the bombardment while negotiations continue for a Palestinian withdrawal.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin sent a letter replying to a strongly-worded message from President Reagan.

Officials declined to disclose its contents but leaks to the local press suggested it basically reiterated Thursday night's cabinet

decisions.

A statement after the meeting made clear that Israel would not accept U.N. ceasefire observers in Beirut and would not pull back its forces to the positions they held last Sunday before the latest round of fighting.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the PLO fighters inside west Beirut "must know if they do not leave peacefully we will take them out by force."

The U.S. asked Israel to withdraw its forces to Sunday's positions and stop its heavy bombardment to give U.S. negotiator Habib a better chance of arranging a PLO withdrawal.

"Habib's efforts will collapse if there is not also a credible Israeli military option," the Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters.

Another official pointed out that 22 Israeli soldiers had been killed and about 75 injured this week. "The (U.S.) idea that we should throw away what these lives cost us is preposterous," he added.

The Foreign Ministry dismissed talk of a showdown in Israel-U.S. relations but referred to differences over tactics.

Local press accounts have said that at a stormy meeting on Wednesday, Defence Minister Ariel Sharon suggested to U.S. Charge d'Affaires William Brown that Israel no longer had confidence in Mr. Habib.

Heavy fighting

Heavy fighting broke out Friday night between Israeli forces and Palestinian commandos facing each other across the main transit point between east and west Beirut, eyewitnesses said.

The sound of heavy shelling, machinegun and automatic rifle fire could be heard from the crossing point beside the national museum.

Witnesses said the fighting was preceded by loudspeaker warnings from the Israelis on the eastern side urging local residents to flee for their lives.

The fighting flared as Lebanese politicians said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was close to an agreement with U.S. special envoy Philip Habib on a plan to withdraw an estimated 6,000 Palestinian commandos entrenched in west Beirut.

Reuter correspondent Harvey Morris reported from behind

Israeli lines that the Palestinians were keeping up a barrage of rockets, some of which fell in the east Beirut suburb of Ashrafieh.

He said the Israelis appeared to be directing their fire at a point some four to five streets west of the museum.

In an earlier raid, an Israeli warplane demolished a six-story apartment block in central west Beirut with a single bomb and the state-run radio said 100 to 150 people were killed or wounded.

State-run Beirut Radio said 100 to 150 people were killed or wounded according to preliminary reports.

The air raid was the closest to the heart of west Beirut in Israel's two-month-old assault on Lebanon.

Two hours later, a car bomb exploded less than 100 metres away and witnesses said six people were killed.

PLO-Habib agreement

On the political front, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan conveyed the latest PLO views on the planned withdrawal of Palestinian fighters to Mr. Habib after declaring an accord was nearly ready.

Foreign Minister Fuad Butros, who also attended the meeting, was quoted by state-run Beirut Radio as saying: "I can say that we

are now at the beginning of the road to a political solution.

"We have made progress which we hope to continue, but there are some differences regarding certain subordinate points."

Sources close to the negotiations said the planned agreement was between the (PLO), the Lebanese government and Mr. Habib. They had no idea whether Israel would accept it.

"Either the Israelis agree to it or they come into west Beirut, with all the destruction that would entail," one source said.

According to the sources, the agreement would provide for the armed Palestinians, whose number has been estimated at 6,000, to start withdrawing from Beirut at a time to be determined by the arrival of the advance party of a proposed international force.

They said the advance party would probably consist of French paratroops.

Withdrawal would be completed in two weeks according to Mr. Habib's proposal, the sources said.

It would take place partly by land and partly by sea, with U.S. guarantees of safety for the departing Palestinians and for the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut's southern suburbs, which have taken the brunt of Israeli shelling.

Iraq proposes non-aligned ministerial conference

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq proposed Friday a meeting of foreign ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement to decide if the movement's summit meeting scheduled for Baghdad next month can go ahead while the host country is at war with Iran.

The proposal was made by Iraqi Foreign Minister Saddam Hammadi in a statement reported by the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

Mr. Hammadi said the foreign ministers must be empowered to take a final decision on the fate of the conference at the proposed meeting, to take place next month. He said the proposal was part of intensive efforts under way with several non-aligned countries aimed at holding the movement's seventh summit in Baghdad in an atmosphere conducive to its success.

In Tehran, the Iranian foreign ministry said that several countries had given in to pressures from Iran to ask for a change in the venue of the conference or its postponement.

Iran, whose planes made an attempt to bomb Baghdad last month, has said the Iraqi capital is not a safe place for the meeting. Iraq has spent millions of dollars in preparing for the non-aligned summit, at which President Saddam Hussein is due to take over the three-year chairmanship of the movement from Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Iraq has been fighting off repeated Iranian assaults on its port city of Basra in recent weeks in the latest thrust in the 22-month-old

Gulf war.

Both Iran and Iraq are members of the non-aligned countries and the war has split the movement. Tehran has been lobbying against Iraq hosting the summit.

Mr. Hammadi said the Iraqi leadership considered the possibility of some heads of state staying away from the summit and that it might be held in what he called "an atmosphere of rumours" which would have a negative effect, INA reported.

But he added: "I am sure that if we insisted on convening it, a large number of heads of state would accept our invitation."

The foreign minister continued: "We will not treat the hosting of the seventh (summit) conference from the starting point of seeking propaganda opportunities."

Mr. Hammadi said Iraq would put forward constructive proposals at the foreign ministers meeting, but gave no details.

The meeting referred to is apparently the regular gathering of non-aligned foreign ministers which precedes the summit, due to start in early September.

The statement said Iran's attempts to change the date and venue of the summit had failed, noting that the latest meeting of the non-aligned coordination bureau in Havana in June came out for Baghdad.

Mr. Hammadi said that Iraq would not have invited the heads of state if there was any doubt about Iraq's ability to protect them.

U.S. vetoes U.N. motion banning world-wide military aid to Israel

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States Friday vetoed a Soviet proposal in the Security Council for a world-wide ban on military aid to Israel until all Israeli troops were withdrawn from Lebanon.

France was among 11 members that voted for the resolution, while Britain was one of three members who abstained.

The text was introduced at a hastily-summoned meeting during the night, after Israel refused to implement Security Council resolutions adopted on Sunday and Wednesday.

The earlier resolutions called for a ceasefire, an Israeli withdrawal from positions occupied in Beirut since Sunday, and the deployment of U.N. observers to monitor the situation.

Israel rejected the monitoring plan and ignored the demand for a military pull-back.

The Soviet proposal would have had the council strongly condemn Israel for not implementing the previous resolutions, and demand that they be fully observed immediately.

The original text said: "All states members of the United

Nations should, as a first step, refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons and from providing it with any military aid."

After private consultations Friday, Soviet Ambassador Richard Ovinkov revised the draft, deleting the phrase "a first step" and adding that the proposed arms ban be "until the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory."

Mr. Ovinkov said the resolution, which included condemnation of Israel, was the minimum response the council could make.

Typhoid threatens west Beirut

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Beleaguered west Beirut may be swept by typhoid if water is not soon restored for the half-million people there, a U.N. report said Friday.

Most of the children were already ravaged by diarrhoea, the U.N. Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) informed Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in a situation report.

With fresh food in very short supply, reservoirs empty and available pump water highly salty, the plight of the city's children was "becoming more tragic every hour," it said.

The U.N. Children's Fund, UNICEF, has been distributing water in jugs, but its supplies were running dry.

The report said typhoid and para-typhoid could spread quickly if water supplies did not return to normal in the next few days.

Invading Israeli forces have blocked power, fuel, water and relief supplies and blood plasma and medicines requiring refrigeration were now threatened, the U.N. report added.

It said the need for accommodation was acute but food needs were being met.

UNICEF said \$1.5 million was needed for repairs to the supply lines and a further \$846,000 for medicines, medical equipment, ambulances and hospital linen.

The immediate relief needs for children and mothers were estimated at \$500,000, including money for drinking water, improved hygiene, detergents and insecticides.

Egyptian media equate Israelis with Nazis

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian newspapers, in editorials and cartoons, heaped scorn Friday on Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and compared Israeli military action in Lebanon with Nazi atrocities during World War Two.

In one of their fiercest criticisms of Israel's Lebanese campaign, the government-controlled newspapers compared the Israeli attacks on Beirut with the massacre of Jews by the Nazis during the last war and drew similarities between Beirut's present siege and that of Stalingrad in the early 1940s.

One cartoon published in the semi-official daily Al Ahran depicted Mr. Begin as Adolf Hitler, leader of Nazi Germany, standing on top of a pile of skulls.

Anti-Israeli material in Egypt's press has been a source of complaint by Israeli diplomats in Cairo since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon began on June 6.

During the rule of the late President Anwar Sadat, the government issued instructions to stop a major anti-Israeli press campaign provoked by Israel's invasion of South Lebanon in 1978.

"The siege of Stalingrad would

appear modest in size when Israeli troops succeed in storming west Beirut after paying lavishly in lives," the mass-circulation Al Akhbar said in an editorial.

"Any Israeli victory in west Beirut would not be accomplished due to Israel's legendary army or the Jewish genius but due to the Arabs' inability to act," Al Akhbar added.

Al Ahran accused Israel of not contributing to the search for a political settlement led by special U.S. envoy Philip Habib.

"The merciless aggressor (Israel) has been unable, despite of its might, to contribute one reasonable formula to the negotiations. Furthermore, Israel does not do anything apart from pouring bombs on the heads of innocent people," it said.

Columnist Ahmad Bahgat of Al Ahran said Israel's conduct in Lebanon was similar to the Nazi's slaughter of Jews during World War Two.

"What is happening in Lebanon could no longer be labelled as a war as wars have their rules and traditions," Mr. Bahgat said in an apparent reference to Israel's refusal to treat captured Palestinian fighters as prisoners of war.

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MIDDLE EAST

Cause of instability in the Middle East

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a speech by the chairman of the board and president of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, Mr. Ali Ghandour before the 45th Executive Conference of the Institute of Paper Chemistry, held in Appleton, Wisconsin recently.

While I realise that you are not without knowledge of the Middle East situation, I feel that the point has not been sufficiently hammered home that the Middle East is a boiling cauldron which has the potential of unleashing untold damage. You, I believe, are concerned about what is going on, but must be feeling helpless that a solution is not in sight. But on second thoughts you need not be. The United States still holds the key to the Middle East peace, although to date it has failed to exercise the right initiatives and apply the necessary and primordial measures. For this reason I have been tempted to choose U.S. Interests Versus U.S. Commitments in the Middle East: A Cause of instability, as the theme for my talk.

One might argue a priori that the subject is provocative. Indeed it is, but I hope it will turn out to be thought-provoking as we need to come to grips with the issues at stake and in the process forming a vivid and realistic perception of the mutuality of our interests and the commonality of our objectives and ideals. The danger of not facing up to unpleasant realities is too grave to be dismissed lightly or brushed aside.

U.S. interests in the Middle East are economic and strategic, and both inter-related. It would be churlish to pretend otherwise. The size of economic exchanges between the United States and the Arab World has increased tremendously over the last decade. For example, U.S. exports to the Arab World have risen from \$1 billion in 1970 to more than \$10 billion in 1980. These figures, of course, exclude the sale of arms. U.S. military sales to Saudi Arabia alone, according to U.S. Defence Department, amounted to \$6.4 billion in Fiscal Years 1979, 1980 and 1981, respectively, in the form of construction, training and equipment. According to the International Peace Research Institute of Stockholm Middle Eastern military spending is running at more than \$40 billion a year, out of a world total of \$500 billion. The biggest defence allocations are made by Saudi Arabia, with an estimated \$20.7 billion last year, according to the London-based Institute for Strategic Studies. The U.S. is invariably the largest beneficiary.

Other exports

U.S. exports to the Arab World are not confined to trade or arms sales. There is a large export of services. There is a very important trend towards building joint ventures in the Arab World in many

strategic fields, such as the petrochemical industries, refineries and the metallurgical industries. Altogether, the size of this other sector of services and joint ventures may equal the size of the trade of exportation itself. It is estimated that these exports may be providing job opportunities for about 1 million people in the U.S. today. And these benefits are spread to all over the states. The present magnitude of U.S. exports and the greater potential that lies ahead, *ceteris paribus*, cannot be overlooked, particularly at a time when exports are fast becoming a mainstay of U.S. industry.

Says Hellen Junz, an international economist at Townsend-Greenspan: "We always used to talk about the United States being less trade-oriented than other countries, but that has changed markedly in recent years." While exports still do not loom as large in the U.S. economy as they do for West Germany and Japan, merchandise exports amount to about 8.5 per cent of the U.S. gross national product. According to the Commerce Department, by the end of 1980 exports represented nearly 20 per cent of all goods produced in the United States, up from less than 12 per cent in 1973. It is noteworthy that Saudi Arabia and the Gulf now represent the third most important region for the exports of the United States and Europe. By exporting goods to the oil producers, the West has been able to recover some of the vast revenues paid out for oil. It is equally significant that the overall export surge has done much to shore up the U.S. trade position despite a fuel bill in 1980 that placed a \$72 billion deficit on the balance-of-payments ledger.

In terms of energy the situation is far more important and striking for economic and strategic considerations. By 1978, the United States was the world's largest oil importer with 31 per cent of its imports (and this percentage will grow) coming from the Middle East. Expressed differently, the Gulf region provides around 15 per cent of U.S. oil consumption. At the same time the Gulf region provides 60 per cent of European consumption and over 70 per cent of Japanese, both areas being of vital concern to the United States as they complement its own security.

The vital contribution of the Middle East to world oil supplies need not be dwelled upon. In 1978, Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states, Iraq and Iran accounted for 61 per cent of the non-Communist world's oil reserves and 44 per cent of its production. In terms of the relative importance of these countries, Saudi Arabia topped the list in 1978 with its share of total Middle East reserves and production at 36 and 38 per cent respectively.

U.S. dependency

It is obvious then that the U.S.

in reality and Western Europe and Japan to a greater extent are deeply dependent of Gulf oil for their energy requirements. Their economic security is contingent upon the continuous flow of oil in adequate quantities at reasonable prices and Saudi Arabia must take credit for its statesmanlike approach in ensuring higher production in times of crisis and in restraining escalation in prices. Saudi actions are not motivated by any altruistic notions but conditioned by a sense of self-interest as we too have a stake in the health, well-being and security of the western nations. And U.S. strategy in the Middle East is seen as safeguarding those interests and cannot escape being viewed in the context of U.S.-Soviet relations. You will permit me to recall an anecdote which is perhaps germane to our present discussion. When one was asked to define biography, geography and strategy he explained in the following manner. Biography, he said, is about chaps, geography about maps and strategy about chaps jockeying for positions on maps.

The interest of the Soviet Union in the Peninsula has been described by Alvin Rubinstein in the November 1979 issue of *The World Today* as follows: "A geographically strategic land mass lying to the south of the USSR's Muslim, non-Slavic union-republic, and flanked by busy routes whose choke points at the Strait of Hormuz and the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb expose Western economic vulnerability, the peninsula is an obvious target for U.S.-Soviet rivalry in the Middle East."

Since the writing of this article the Russians have invaded Afghanistan and remain in occupation of the country. They are already within a striking distance of the Strait of Hormuz. No less of strategic importance is the 32-kilometre wide straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, north of the Horn of Africa which separates that continent from Arabian Peninsula. Lying 160 kilometres south of the Suez Canal was first dug by Ferdinand de Lesseps in 1869. Bab-el-Mandeb is of critical value to the Suez.

While 46 per cent of the petroleum which the U.S. imports from the Gulf states passes through the straits of Hormuz, about 1900 kilometres northeast of Bab-el-Mandeb, virtually all commercial traffic destined for Europe and not carried aboard supertankers transits Bab-el-Mandeb. If the Suez Canal or its approaches are closed, ships must transit an additional 10,000 kilometres around the Cape of Good Hope to reach continental ports. The Europeans experienced this serious disadvantage in 1967 when the canal was blocked during the Arab-Israeli War.

Thomas Walsh writing in the September 1980 issue of *Armed*



Mr. Ali Ghandour: "In the Arab view the United States has not moved swiftly or forthrightly enough towards resolving the questions of Palestinian rights and Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories. The U.S. holds the carrot and the stick and it does not serve U.S. interests, any more than it serves Jewish interests too, for Israel to remain *l'enfant terrible* in the conduct of U.S. foreign policy."

Forces Journal stated that "this geopolitical fact has not been lost upon the USSR. Since the British abandoned their air and naval bases in Aden at the time they gave independence to Yemen in 1967, The Soviets have been quietly buying friends and influencing governments in this strategic area."

In a classic political manoeuvre, Mr. Walsh adds, the Soviet have cemented relations with the revolutionary government in Ethiopia, providing an estimated 40,000 Cuban troops and Russian advisors to that nation in return for the liberal use of the Red Sea ports of Massawa and Assab. Some 2,000 to 3,000 Soviet, Cuban and East German men and maintain the South Yemeni Air Force, from which IL-38 naval reconnaissance planes are permitted to fly out of the "Peoples' Republic" to observe U.S. fleet movements in the Persian Gulf. A Soviet naval squadron utilises the port facilities at Socatra Island off the coasts of South Yemen and Somalia.

I have attempted to demonstrate, with some measure of success I hope, that the U.S. and the West within the context of global strategy and geopolitical realities

are dependent on the Arab Mideast for their trade, energy and security and that the future of the Western Alliance is closely intertwined with that of the Arab people in their mutual quest for safety, stability and prosperity.

Incomprehensible

Yet, in spite of all that, we find to our dismay that the U.S. position has been eroding and that America is rapidly losing ground. Why, and we must have asked ourselves this question repeatedly before, but do not seem to have sufficiently and appreciably caused a change of direction. We cannot—and should not—tire ourselves of asking this very same question as persistent delay and procrastination will continue to have a deleterious effect on our relations. We are not dealing with ineluctable circumstances and the issues must therefore be identified and addressed fairly and squarely. Educating ourselves to the realities of the situation as we attempt this evening must be painful but there is no wavering.

The U.S. one-sided commitment to the State of Israel, is the sore point in U.S.-Arab relations and has bedevilled these

relations for so long without showing signs of any let off.

U.S. involvement goes back to the time of World War I. It is claimed that the Balfour Declaration of Nov. 2, 1917, which granted the Jews a national home in Palestine, was partly the price the British paid for bringing the U.S. into the war on the side of the allies. Pressure groups as we understand them today were at work then too! Since then and up to the end of World War II U.S. involvement has been minimal, but gained momentum and ascendancy in the immediate post-war years. Britain, the mandatory power in Palestine, had emerged from the war victorious but exhausted and could not for very long resist U.S. pressures. By 1948, when the State of Israel was created, the U.S. commitment had become final and complete.

Since 1948 the litany of events in the Holy Land of Palestine and the Middle East is well known and documented to be repeated. The 1948 War created in its wake an Arab refugee problem of unprecedented magnitude and Israel's refusal to come to an honourable accommodation with its Arab neighbours gave way to further conflicts in the area. There was the Suez War of 1956. If it served any purpose at all it demonstrated American leadership at its best. President Eisenhower ordered the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Sinai and Gaza Strip. He had the wisdom and the courage to place the welfare of the nation above the welfare of special interests.

Ten years later, the June war of 1967 took place. Israel emerged victorious and in occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan, the Sinai, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. When all vestiges of colonialism had vanished, Israel had become a colonial and imperial power. No one in his senses would have dreamt, let alone contemplated, that the survivors of the Holocaust who had been so much suffering themselves would arrogate to themselves functions that are antithetical to their religious beliefs.

Then came the October war of 1973 which was followed by President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the Camp David Accords. President Sadat's visit although harmful to the Arab cause, served, to my mind, one particular purpose: It called Israel's bluff. All along the Arabs were portrayed as warmongers wanting to destroy Israel. The converse is true. While the Arabs have been seeking an accommodation with Israel based on a comprehensive, honourable and lasting peace, Israel retreated and its abhorrent actions in the occupied territories and South Lebanon bear ample testimony to its malevolent intentions. Israel is enjoying her role as an occupying power, in defiance of world-wide opinion, which to date she has been intensifying and perpetuating. Israel's refusal to sur-

render territory occupied in the 1967 war is aided and abetted by the U.S. countenance of her actions and behaviour. While the U.S. as we are so often reminded, is bound, historically, morally and politically, to insure the survival of Israel, the U.S. must clearly distinguish actual Israeli security requirements from political and religious aspirations.

The Camp David Accords fell far short of expectations: they failed to provide for a comprehensive peace, resulted in polarisation and division amongst the Arab countries which have become an added cause of instability in the area and failed to deal with the basic problem, namely the Palestine issue. The U.S. has unfortunately been blind to the plight of the Palestinians or magnitude of the problem they present.

The main issue

The question of Palestine which is at the core of the Arab-Israeli dispute has been for thirty-three years—and continues to be—the primary source of instability in the Middle East and a contributory factor towards world tension. The dispute, insofar as the Arabs were concerned, has been disruptive and divisive. Moreover, a number of Arab states frustrated with the lack of progress being made on the issue turned in desperation for their requirements of arms in times of armed conflict to non-traditional sources of outside assistance which invited Soviet incursions in the area hitherto unknown. Arab and U.S. interests, which complement each other, are more threatened than ever before. The lesson of Afghanistan, which should have been ominous, has been lost on the western world.

The Arab conditions for peace with Israel rest on the return of occupied territory to pre-1967 borders, sovereignty over eastern Jerusalem and self-determination for the Palestinian people which is too little a price for Israel to pay in pursuit of lasting peace. After all these have been the spoils of war and I do not think that the international community, especially Israel will want to witness that which has been taken away by force shall be recovered by force.

Israel's intransigence to date and her failure to budge would not obtain if it had not been for the U.S. commitment to Israel which varies inversely with U.S. prestige in the region.

Mr. George Ball, former under secretary of state from 1961 to 1966 and permanent representative to the United Nations in 1968, writing in the winter 1979/80 of *Foreign Affairs* stated "Today Israel is able to continue on its present course only because of continued vast subsidies from the United States. Disastrous as it must be to Israel, the nation has

become a ward—a kind of welfare dependent—of America. The United States is providing annual subsidies out of the public sector that amount to the equivalent of \$7,500 a year for every Jewish family—or, in other words every five persons, and those subsidies will be substantially increased before America finishes paying the costs of Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. In addition, of course, there are the huge sums paid every year to Israel out of the admirable generosity of the American Jewish community, on a scale without precedent in history.

So Israel's hard-line policies and total rejection of American advice are not due to some newfound independence from any need for American support. On the contrary, such dependence has now reached the point of totality."

In the Arab view the United States has not moved swiftly or forthrightly enough towards resolving the questions of Palestinian rights and Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories. The U.S. holds the carrot and the stick and it does not serve U.S. interests, any more than it serves Jewish interests too, for Israel to remain *l'enfant terrible* in the conduct of U.S. foreign policy.

It is not too late, though we are running out of time, for the U.S. to pressure Israel away from its present aberrant course. Palestinian rights must be dealt with and recognised and it is well to heed Bernard Shaw's John Bull's Other Island (1904): "If you destroy a people's nationhood, it will know no other thought but its reconquest. It will listen to no moderniser, hear of no philosopher, lend an ear to no preacher as long as its national demand is not answered."

Human rights in U.S. foreign policy is not a dead issue as some cynics would have us believe. President Reagan in his inaugural speech last January stated, "And as we renew ourselves here in our own land, we will be seen as having greater strength throughout the world. We will again be the exemplar of freedom and a beacon of hope for those who do not now have freedom."

Finally, I hope I have contributed to a better understanding of the outstanding issue of the day. While there is reason to fear for the future of our relations if we continue to drift apart, we need not however despair. President Reagan is right in saying that "no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women." I, for one, reaffirm my trust in the capacity of the American people for leadership, compassion and fair play and firmly believe that American from all walks of life will not be found wanting in will or courage to face up to their responsibilities to redress the inequities of the past.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

05:30 Koran
05:50 Koran
06:15 The Incomparable
07:30 Local Programme
07:30 Agricultural Programme
08:30 News in Arabic
08:30 Arabic Series
09:30 Wrestling
10:30 Arabic Play
11:00 News in Arabic
11:10 Play continues

FOREIGN CHANNEL

06:00 French Programme
07:00 News in French
07:30 News in Hebrew
08:30 Comedy: Angie
09:30 Documentary: Doctor
10:30 Variety Show
10:40 News in English
10:15 Feature Film: Yuma

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9560 KHz. SW

07:10 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Content Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals, Old Favorites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
18:00 Special Feature
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Plays of the Week
19:00 Great Books of Islam
19:30 Top Twenty
20:30 Country Music
21:00 Classical Music
21:50 News Headlines
10:00 Sign-Off

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Keynotes 06:45 Financial News 07:00 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:30 Press Review 07:45 About Britain 07:30 New Ideas 07:45 Book Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Album Time 09:00 World News 09:00 News about Britain 09:15 From the Weeklies 09:30 Classical Record Review 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 World News 10:00 Reflections 10:15 The Hobbit 10:30 These Musical Dragons and the Bear 11:00 11:30 Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Science in Action 12:15 News 12:25 The Week in Wales 12:30 Lord Peter Wimsey: Have His Carcase 13:00 World News 13:00 News about Britain 13:15 About Britain 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsdesk 14:15 Anything Goes 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:00 Commentary 15:15 Network U.K. 15:30 Counterpoint 16:00 Saturday Special 17:00 Radio Newsdesk 17:15 Saturday Special 18:00 World News 18:00 Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 News Summary Round-up 19:30 World News 20:00 News about Britain 20:15 Radio Newsdesk 20:30 Play of the Week: What the Doctor Ordered 21:30 Album Time 22:00 World News 22:00 Commentary 22:15 Good Books 22:30 These Musical Dragons and the Bear 23:15 Tarzan 23:30 People and Politics 24:00 World News 22:00 From Our Own Correspondent 00:30 New Ideas 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:30 Commentary 01:15 Letterbox 01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

05:00 The Breakfast Show: 17:00 News and This Week 17:30 Press Conference USA 18:00 Special English: News, Words, and Their Stories, Feature: Short Stories 18:30 New York, New York 19:00 Weekend 20:00 Special English 20:30 New York, New York 21:00 News and This Week 21:30 Press Conference USA 22:00 Special English: newswords and their stories 22:15 Music USA (Jazz) 23:00 Weekend

WHAT'S GOING ON

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993

Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 65195

MUSEUMS

Faldira Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munazzah, Jabel Luweibeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 64240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the International Hotel, 1.30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.

Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibeh, 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 66428.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 22541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 43453.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 63249.

PRAYER TIMES

05:21 Fajr
04:53 (Sunrise) Shurooq
11:42 Dhuhur
15:23 'Asr
18:28 Maghreb
20:01 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information department at Amman Airport, tel. 92505-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:15 Cairo (EA)
08:55 Agaba (RJ)
09:00 Cairo (RJ)
09:00 Larnaca (CY)
09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:20 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:25 Jeddah (RJ)
09:30 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:35 Dhahran (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:05 Riyadh (SV)
11:10 Cairo (EA)
15:20 Cairo (RJ)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:25 Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
17:00 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
17:10 Cairo (EA)
17:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:00 Cairo (RJ)
18:05 Rome (Alitalia)
19:15 Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)
20:15 Tripoli (RJ)
22:30 Baghdad (RJ)
24:00 Cairo (EA)
00:30 Baghdad (RJ)
01:10 Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

05:00 Cairo (RJ)
05:25 Larnaca, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
08:15 Cairo (EA)
09:25 Larnaca (CY)
10:15 Athens, Zurich (SR)
10:45 Tripoli (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Cairo (RJ)
11:50 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:10 Cairo (EA)
12:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:30 Madrid (RJ)
13:00 Riyadh (Saudi)
14:00 Cairo (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jls

Belgian franc 75/4 75.9
Dutch guilder 130/4 131.2
Egyptian pound 341/1 346.7
French franc 51/7 52
Irish dollar 586/7 595
Italian lire (for 100) 25/8 26
Japanese yen (for 100) 137/1 137.8
Kuwaiti dinar 1226/ 1230
Lebanese lira 68/6 69.5
Omani rial 1002/2 1003.2
Qatari rial 96/7 97.2
Saudi riyal 102/7 103.1
Swedish crown 58/1 58.4
Swiss franc 170/3 171.3
Syrian lira 60/2 60.7
UAE dirham 96/2 97
U.K. sterling pound 615/9 619.6
U.S. dollar 345/5 356.5
W. German mark 144 144.9

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather with north-westerly moderate wind. In Arabia northerly moderate wind and calm seas.

Low/high temperature in deg. C
Amman 20/31
Agaba 26/38
Dahran 20/37
Jordan Valley 23/36
Yesterday's high temperature readings:
Amman 31, Agaba 37. Humidity readings:
Amman 40 per cent, Agaba 26 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 845845
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71123-8

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32
Khaldun Maternity, J. Amman 44281-1
Aidh Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 64171-4
University Hospital 845845
Deir Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 67158
Al-Musaber, J. Hussein 67127-9
The Islamic, Abdali 65292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 64164
Islamic, Al-Muhajir 77101-3
Al-Basair, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marfa 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN
Dr. Issam Hawandeh 3302962295

ZARQA

IRBID
Dr. Hani Farhan 5011
Al Nabulsi pharmacy 2423

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 66412
Price complaints 61176
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 18
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.

Apple (Africa) 450 / 400
Apple (American) 500 / 450
Apple (Double Red) 280 / 200
Apple (Golden) 280 / 200
Apple (Japan) 360 / 300
Apple (Local) 200 / 160
Apple (Swiss) 230 / 200
Apricot (Local) 230 / 200
Banana (Multimara) 260 / 200
Banana (Swiss) 225 / 180
Beans (string) 200 / 160
Broad Beans 170 / 140
Cabbage 100 / 80
Carrot 120 / 100
Cauliflower (white) 170 / 140
Cauliflower (purple) 350 / 300
Cucumber (large) 150 / 120
Cucumber (small) 150 / 120
Eggplant (small) 150 / 120
Fenugreek 140 / 120

Garlic 500 / 400
Grape 240 / 200
Grape leaves 200 / 150
Lemon 250 / 200
Mellow 80 / 60
Marrow (large) 150 / 120
Marrow (small) 150 / 120
Melon 180 / 140
Olea 250 / 200
Onion (dry) 100 / 80
Parsley 100 / 80
Peas (Lebanese

Sheraton Palace gets new name and management

By Samira Kavar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — On Aug. 1, 1982, one of Amman's leading five-star hotels, known by the public for almost two years as the Sheraton Palace, took on the new name of The Regency Palace.

The hotel, which opened in November 1980 to host the delegates to the 11th Arab Summit Conference held in Amman, had a capital of JD 7 million, part of which was supplied by government loans. It is owned by the Grand Palace Hotels Company, the equity of which is held by nine members of the Sawalha family.

Prior to Aug. 1, the hotel was managed by the Sheraton Middle East Management Corporation, which gave the hotel its name. But the change in name signifies the more profound change that has taken place since the beginning of the month, when the Sheraton group withdrew from the management and operation of the hotel and handed both tasks over to the Grand Palace Hotels Company.

The hotel's new general manager, Sami Sawalha, and former general manager Erhard Noreisch both told the Jordan Times that the parting of ways between their two companies had come about in a spirit of friendly and mutual agreement and was in the interest of both parties concerned. Cooperation between the Grand Palace Hotels Company and Sheraton Middle East Management Corporation would still continue, they said.

During a luncheon party at The Regency Palace on Thursday, Mr.



Posing for a photograph at the luncheon given by the Regency Palace Hotel to mark the change of the hotel's name and management are from left to right: Sales, Marketing and Public Relations Director Ghaleb Sawalha; Jordan Hotels Association Director Zuhair Ajlouni; Information Under-Secretary Peter Salah; the hotel's former general manager, Erhard Noreisch; Tourism Assistant Director Rafiq Lahham; General Manager Sami Sawalha; Sa'eb Oueidah, director of Saudia (Saudi Arabian Airlines) and chairman of Skat Club; and the hotel's Assistant General Manager, Samir Sawalha.

Noreisch received a gift from the Jordan Hotels Association in appreciation of his efforts and those of the Sheraton group in promoting the hotel industry in Jordan. Attending the ceremony were Information Under-Secretary Peter Salah; Mr. Rafiq Lahham, deputising for Tourism Director-General Michael Hamameh; representatives of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline; tourist and travel agencies and the big hotels in Amman.

In a short thank-you speech, Mr. Noreisch said that the friendship between Sheraton and the Jordanian people would endure, and he thanked the Jordanians for their hospitality.

Shedding light on some of the reasons that led to the withdrawal of Sheraton from the hotel's man-

agement and the takeover by Grand Palace Hotels, Mr. Sawalha said that he and his cousins felt that such a move was timely because they had "the necessary experience, training and qualifications" to take over the management of their hotel. He emphasised that The Regency Palace would remain a five-star hotel, that its standards would be the same as those of the Sheraton Palace plus "a touch of Jordanian hospitality."

The Sawalha family has been in the hotel business for 52 years. Their company, according to Mr. Sami Sawalha, boasts several young qualified and experienced young Jordanians operating the food and beverages, personnel and other various departments in the hotel.

Anti-drug conference recommends unified law

AMMAN (Petra) — The second conference of the heads of the anti-narcotics departments in the Arab World, which concluded its meetings here on Thursday, has recommended that Arab states cooperate in the field of studies and research, combat of narcotics and the illegal drugs traffic in it. The conference also recommended that a unified law on narcotics be drafted for the Arab countries.

The participants in the conference sent a cable of thanks to

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for his interest in the activities of the seminar on the protection against narcotics. They also sent cables of thanks to a number of high-ranking Jordanian officials for their interest in the conference.

The conference discussed in the morning session which preceded the final session the annual statistical report prepared by the Amman-based Arab bureau for narcotics.

1,533 scholarships to be granted this academic year

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education announced that it will grant 1533 male and female scholarships in various specialisations in Jordan and abroad. Scholarships Department Director Ali Al Yamani said that 1100 scholarships will be granted to students in Jordan and the rest will be in countries where the ministry

has reserved seats. The scholarships have been distributed to the five educational departments in Amman, Irbid, Balqa, Karak and Ma'an governorates to offer equal opportunities to students from various regions. Eighty six scholarships will be granted to students from the West Bank, Mr. Yamani said.

Jordan to take part in Manila FAO conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a week-long international conference of experts in food security which is due to start in Manila on Sunday.

Agriculture Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawzi who will attend the conference said the experts will discuss a study prepared by the Rome-based Agriculture and

Food Organisation (FAO) on food reserves in various regions and the exchange of foodstuffs among these regions. Dr. Lawzi who will leave for the Philippine capital Thursday said that participants in the FAO-organised conference will represent 100 nations which are also FAO members

Fertilisers company ready to despatch first shipment

AQABA (Petra) — A freighter arrived in Aqaba industrial port on Friday to load the first shipment of ammonium phosphates produced by the Jordanian Chemical Fertilisers Company. The weight of the shipment is 4,200 tonnes and will be shipped to Italy. It will be the first shipment out of a total of 30,000 tonnes which the company will export to Italy. The

value of the first shipment is well over JD 250,000.

NEWS IN BRIEF

King condoles Mallah family.

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has deputed the assistant chief of royal protocol to convey His Majesty's condolences to the Mallah family on the death of the late Mrs. Rawhiyyeh Abdul Kadir Attiyyeh Al Mallah.

Credit facilities rise in May

AMMAN (Petra) — Credit facilities offered by commercial banks to various sectors last May increased by JD 2,069,000 compared to the month before. The credit facilities offered during that month amounted to JD 804,630,000 compared to JD 802,561,000 in the month before.

Winds reduce visibility at desert road

AMMAN (Petra) — A spokesman for the Public Security Department has appealed to the drivers on the desert road to be alert and cautious while driving on the said road, particularly in the Al Qatraneh area where strong winds and heavy dust have caused total invisibility. The source said the winds and dust are expected to continue throughout Saturday.

Appeal for faster registration of births

AMMAN (Petra) — The civil status department in Amman has called on citizens to expedite the registration of births within a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of birth and the registration of deaths within 24 hours after the person is deceased. A source at the department said that those who report the births and deaths belatedly would be legally prosecuted. He said the aim of the measure is to gather accurate figures on births and deaths and keep accurate records of them.

41 merchants fined

AMMAN (Petra) — The military governor has approved the sentences passed by the court martial fining 41 merchants JD 40 each for violation of the supply ministry regulations.

Cabinet approves agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved the general agreement on capital aid between the Jordanian government and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany amounting to 70 million marks. The aim of the agreement, which will be signed by National Planning Council President Hanna Odeh, on behalf of the Jordanian government, is to finance the implementation of several development projects in Jordan.

AWSA to raise Amman water supply

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA) will increase the pumping of water from Azraq to Amman as of the beginning of September by 700 cubic metres per hour. AWSA Director-General Mohammad Al Kilani said the increase will end the water shortage in certain areas of Amman. He said although the water situation in Amman is not ideal, it is acceptable. Mr. Kilani said the AWSA will also increase the use of water tanks to cover the water shortage in the affected areas.

University receives applications

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan starts on Saturday receiving applications for post graduates studies. A university spokesman said that between Aug. 5 and Aug. 16 students for diplomas and masters degrees at various faculties will be able to submit their applications to the registrar along with documents and certified copies of previous degrees, a birth certificate and a personal photo. The registration fee is JD 2, he said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan chairs the military medical school delegation (Petra photo) meeting on Thursday morning with the Pakistani

Crown Prince meets Pakistani medical school delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received at the Royal Court on Thursday morning the delegation of the Pakistani military medical school currently visiting Jordan.

Crown Prince Hassan welcomed the delegation and expressed their hope that cooperation between the two countries would be enhanced in all fields.

Crown Prince Hassan explained the Zionist practices aimed at Judaizing the occupied Arab areas, particularly Arab

Jerusalem. He also explained the continuous attempts of the occupation authorities to change the landmarks of the holy city and their constant violation of international law and policy of constructing settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Crown Prince Hassan also explained the general situation in the area following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the struggle of the Lebanese and Palestinian

people in confronting the Zionist invasion forces. He also pointed out that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon is linked with the Iranian aggression on Iraq and the Ethiopian aggression on Somalia, which resulted in the escalation of tension in the area and superpower rivalry.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the Royal Medical Corps Maj. Gen. Dawud Hanania and the Pakistani military attache in Amman.

Chamber of Commerce receives list of graduates

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Commerce has received a list from the international association for the assistance of Arab students in America including the names of graduate Arab students whom the association helped financially through university education. The list includes various specialisations, especially civil, electrical, mechanical and chemical engineering, economics, marketing, education, city regional planning, business

administration, and fire-fighting technology. Amman Chamber of Commerce Director Rajih Al Amin said that the association expressed its desire to cooperate with the chamber to find employment opportunities for these graduates to work in Jordan. He also called on Jordanian businessmen to contact the chamber to supply them with the details of the qualifications of these graduates for employment purposes.

Jordan to take part in ALECSO meetings

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the 30th session of the executive council of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO) which will begin in the Tunisian city of Al Hammamat on Aug. 9.

During the five-day session, the participants will discuss the report of the ALECSO director-general on its activities and the implementation of its various programmes. They will also discuss the question of establishing a national centre for scientific Arab heritage for 1979-80 as well as the establishment of an Arab institute for preparing teachers for various

purposes, including the rehabilitation of the disabled.

The participants will also discuss matters related to defining ways of supporting the institute for the further training of educational supervisors as well as ways of enriching the Arabic and Islamic library with research capable of serving the Islamic economy and the Arabic language.

The participants will also discuss ways of cooperation with international schools and organisations. Jordan will be represented in the session by Education Ministry Cultural Department Director Nabilah Wabbeh.

Shuneh health centre to turn hospital

IRBID (Petra) — The health centre at north Shuneh will be transformed into a hospital which will be supplied with medical equipment and sufficient staff of doctors and nurses to offer all types of medical services to the citizens in the northern Jordan Valley region, a ministry spokesman said. The hospital will offer services to nearly 45,000 people in the region. The ministry has lately established another hospital at Abu 'Ubaidah Al Jarrah in the northern Jordan Valley region.

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- (3) Digital auto electrical measuring instrument for all electric cables, and other equipment for all heavy duty earthmoving equipment.
- (4) Hydraulic cranes.
- (5) Paints quick dryers.
- (6) Concrete vibrators.
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Advertise by mail in the Jordan Times

The Jordan Times can accept classified advertisements that are sent in by mail and accompanied by full payment in cash. Readers and advertisers who cannot conveniently

bring their advertisements to the Jordan Times office or to an advertising agency office in Amman may send in their ads by mail on the following conditions:

1. Full payment in cash or cheque accompanies the advertisement.
2. The minimum charge for a single advertisement is JD 7.500.
3. Advertisements sent by mail cannot contain any artwork such as company emblems, photos or drawings, but must consist only of a headline and copy that will be typeset by the Jordan Times.
4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
5. For the minimum price of JD 7.500, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 7.500 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 15, three insertions cost JD 22.500 etc.
6. For a larger ad, the rates are JD 10 for 40 words and JD 12.500 for 50 words.
7. You can take advantage of the Jordan Times advertising by mail facility by completing the form below and mailing it with full payment in cash or cheque to:

Advertising Department
The Jordan Times,
P.O. Box 6710,
Amman, Jordan.

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Israel is taking a lot for granted in Lebanon

Reuter

BEIRUT — Lebanese factional leaders are drawing up their plans for a crucial election campaign to find a successor to the country's hard-pressed president, Elias Sarkis.

Mr. Sarkis is due to step down on September 23 after six turbulent years in a post that gave him little power over Lebanon's feuding factions.

His office was recently shelled from positions in Israeli-occupied West Beirut in a sharp reminder of the fragility of the country's constitutional process. With over a third of the country occupied by Israeli troops, the question of whether it will be possible to hold the presidential election at all is still hotly debated.

But the election campaign moved into action last week with the formal announcement of the first candidate—right-wing Falangist militia commander Bashir Gemayel.

Under the constitution, the new head of state should be elected by

the 99-man parliament within the 60-day period that began last Friday.

Poll under the gun

Few in Lebanon doubt that the poll, if held, would take place under the gun of an Israeli tank—or at least with Israel's dominant foreign power on Lebanese soil.

Israel, which invaded Lebanon on June 6, also aims to nurture a strong, friendly government with which it can sign a peace treaty.

Many Muslim leaders oppose holding the presidential poll under Israeli occupation. Christian leaders, however, maintain that if it is not held on time, there may never be another chance.

Political sources say the balance of opinion appears to favour holding the elections. Many fear that otherwise the country, which has kept a tenuous unity since the 1975-76 civil war, may be fatally partitioned.

Since the civil war, which pined

the Christian rightists against an alliance of Palestinians and Lebanese leftists, parliament has been housed in the eerie no-man's land along the "green line" that divides the capital.

President Sarkis himself was elected in 1976. Security was provided by Syrian troops who entered Lebanon to stop the civil war and have stayed under a peace-keeping mandate.

Whoever becomes the new head of state will face the daunting task of forging a united Lebanon out of a country currently divided between the Israeli and Syrian armies and a host of rival militias.

All candidates have to be members of the Maronite church, the dominant local Christian sect, under a 1943 accord which divides top posts among the various confessional groups.

Challenges to Gemayel

Political sources say there are likely to be several challengers to Mr. Gemayel though he has been the most vocal in the run-up to the

campaign. A 34-year-old former lawyer who rose to prominence in the civil war and is now undisputed Christian leader, his candidacy is likely to be strongly opposed by Muslims and leftists, the sources say.

Mr. Gemayel's militias are cooperating with the Israelis in their siege of Palestinian strongholds in West Beirut, and they have made broad gains in Israeli-occupied areas. His supporters say he is the only man tough enough to rule Lebanon. But his civil war record and accusations of working with the Israelis make him a controversial figure in a political system which usually throws up a compromise candidate.

Under the constitution, the parliament speaker must call the single-chamber assembly into session for the poll. If he fails to do this, the deputies may meet automatically 10 days before Mr. Sarkis' term expires.

Extension of term

If no ballot is held, political

sources say there is a possibility the president's term may be extended—an option he is reported to have rejected.

Alternatively, the cabinet, headed by Sunni Muslim Prime Minister Shafik Al-Wazzan, might act as collective head of state. But this would be hard for the Maronites to accept as it would upset the delicate power balance between the religious groupings.

Among possible candidates is former president Camille Chamoun, now 82. Moderate politician Raymond Edde, self-exiled in Paris since 1976 following repeated assassination attempts, still has wide support. But he has ruled out returning to the country while it is still under occupation, according to local newspapers.

The army's choice is said to be the former military intelligence chief, Brigadier Gabriel Lahoud. He was recently reinstated in the army, a decade after he quit under a cloud of accusations of indiscipline of which he was subsequently cleared.

Beyond the utterance of an appeal

WE WOULD like to share Saudi Arabian King Fahd's satisfaction with U.S. President Ronald Reagan's reaction to Arab demands that the United States stop Israel from further attacks against Beirut. Firm positions, if taken by the U.S. president and his administration, to halt the carnage the Israelis are committing in Lebanon would indeed contribute to ending Israel's arrogance and restore stability and security not only to war-ravaged Lebanon but probably to the entire Middle East.

Unfortunately, however, experience has taught us hard lessons about the possibility of the U.S. playing such a role. Friday's events alone are enough to make us extremely sceptical: a fresh American veto at the United Nations Security Council against withholding military aid from Israel until it withdraws its forces from Lebanon, a savage Israeli raid on an apartment block in west Beirut killing or wounding tens of children and women refugees, renewed attacks against Palestinian positions across the main transit point bet-

ween east and west Beirut; all of course coming after the Begin government's rejection of President Reagan's appeal to maintain a ceasefire in place, and ignoring U.N. resolutions and a State Department ruling demanding Israeli withdrawal to pre-Aug. 1 lines around Beirut.

Palestinian, Lebanese and American negotiators have now virtually reached an agreement on a plan to withdraw all Palestine Liberation Organisation fighters from west Beirut. But Israel is, in all probability, only interested in pursuing a military solution to a bitter end.

Even without hard evidence, we are willing to accept that the United States government is committed to bringing peace to Lebanon. What we are not so easily willing to accept though, is optimism about Washington's determination to restrain its client state Israel, and, more importantly, about the merits of surrendering our fate to its will—without even going beyond the mere utterance of an appeal.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arab masses want answers

So far, no unified Arab action has crystallised towards the carnage which is taking place in Beirut and towards the absence of this unified action, which means the lack of a unified Arab will in coping with the Israeli-American plot aimed at obliterating the Arab identity in the area. This is as serious as the collusion among the sides involved in the plot and the premeditated attempt to cancel the role of the United Nations in saving whatever is left of Beirut.

In all frankness, we say that the Arab masses cannot find a convincing reason for acquitting the Arab leadership or justifying the lack of Arab will. If the Arab will fails to appear and prove itself, what value would it have after now?

Under such circumstances, the Arab masses are entitled to ask: what do the Arab leaderships intend to do, and when will they do it? Do they have a clear picture of what would happen in the future if the situation continues as it is now?

The heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters in west Beirut has proved false several of the pretexts used in the past such as Israel's "air superiority" and "armament superiority." Evidently, the will of fighting has achieved what the air and armament superiority failed to do. It also became evident beyond any doubt that it was this will which saved the face of

the Arab citizen in front of the world at a time when plotting was being intensified to strip the Arab citizen even from a face-saving solution.

Needless to say, the will of fighting giving impetus to political action, or the lack of such will, turns this political action into some kind of begging. In light of this fact, the building of a fighting Arab will is the indispensable must for any Arab productive political action. In all cases, the Arab leaderships are responsible for building this will and utilising it, and maybe they will act after all that happened in Lebanon.

Jordan has always called for building a unified Arab will and appealed to all Arabs to shoulder their pan-Arab responsibilities to cope with any aggression against the Arab Nation anywhere. His Majesty King Hussein has responded to the invitation to convene an Arab summit, and this is a confirmation of Jordan's pan-Arab stand that Arab security is inseparable and that protection of this security in Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and every part of the Arab World is inseparable. Jordan will continue to urge the Arabs to build their self-strength. We hope that Jordan's efforts would bear fruit, particularly that events have proved that will and strength are the basis of successful political action in all fields.

Al Dustour: Yemeni initiative is useful

Perhaps we do not need to repeat saying that what is taking place in Lebanon in terms of the barbaric aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples is unprecedented, and would not have taken place had it not been for the state of division and disunity in Arab ranks. This has become a known fact to all the Arab governments and people.

Therefore, the initiative of the two Yemeni presidents to convene an urgent Arab summit as soon as possible to cope with the Israeli aggression on Lebanon is a step in the right direction towards

changing the painful reality of the Arab World. Arab leaders should have realised the importance of the summit since the Israeli incursions against the Palestinian resistance and the threat to invade Lebanon. Had Arab efforts been unified at that time, we would have avoided all these tragedies.

The efforts of the two Yemeni presidents should be encouraged by all Arab countries in order to prevent the enemy from dictating his terms.

Rooted in Irgun, degrading to the oppressor

By Muhammad Hallaj

Dr. Muhammad Hallaj was vice-president for academic affairs, Birzeit University, West Bank. He is currently visiting scholar at Harvard University's Centre for International Affairs and fellow at the Institute of Arab Studies, Belmont, Massachusetts. His article is reprinted from Middle East International, London.

Recent Israeli repression in the occupied territories and the genocidal onslaught against Lebanon indicate that Zionism has finally developed into the Irgunisation of Israel. Irgun Zvai Leumi was the terrorist organisation headed by Menachem Begin in the 1940s. It is tempting to credit this achievement to Menachem Begin, whose victims stretch from Deir Yassin to Damour. Begin certainly helped the process along and hastened its consummation, but the Irgunisation of Israel was always a latent potential of Zionism.

The Zionist movement, schemed, from the very beginning, to involve the entire Jewish people in the usurpation of Palestine. One of the principal resolutions of the first Zionist congress per-

tained to the mobilisation of the Jewish people everywhere in the service of this cause. The nearly total absence of Jewish opposition to Israeli policy, even when it reaches the depth of genocidal acts as it has reached in Lebanon, indicates the degree to which the Zionist movement has succeeded in harnessing the Jewish community.

The most salient feature of modern tyrannies is that they seek to implicate their peoples in their acts. In fact it is necessary to think of fascism as the popularisation of tyranny, if it is to be distinguishable from traditional despotism. And by implicating and actively involving the Jewish people in the usurpation of Palestine and the mass extermination of its Arab people, the Zionist movement matured into the fas-

cist stage of its evolution.

This is the moral defeat temporarily concealed by the billowing smoke over ruined Lebanese cities and Palestinian camps. This is the true tragedy of the Jewish people who from Tel Aviv, London, Paris, New York, and Buenos Aires toss flowers onto Begin's bloody path. This is the sort of hollow victory bound to be reaped by a people who seek to prosper by visiting calamity upon another people.

Once upon a time Jewish communities throughout the world, often victimised by oppression, stood with forces struggling against injustice and repression. Then Zionism came, and under the slogan of "never again" taught them to be practitioners of oppression. It taught them to glorify the state, to post "Jews only" signs, and to sing of race, soil, and blood. And above all else, Zionism taught them to be proud of it all. The Zionists began by dehumanising the Palestinians to justify their atrocious transgression against them, and ended by dehumanising the Jewish peo-

ple to secure their participation in the proceedings.

This achievement of the Zionist movement, the dehumanisation of both the Palestinians and the Jewish people, has been shockingly highlighted by the invasion of Lebanon. "Listen," the Israeli soldier in Lebanon told Robert Fisk, the correspondent of The Times, "I know you are tape-recording this but personally I would like to see them all dead. I would like to see all the Palestinians dead because they are a sickness wherever they go" (The Times, 17 June 1982). And who is this monster who sees a whole people as a sickness which should be eradicated? Fisk described him to us: "He was a young man whose curly hair and silver-framed glasses gave him a gentle, almost ascetic appearance that quite belied the things he was saying." He planned to go to college and study law in September, if he is done with eradicating the plague by then. "He had lived in France for most of his life, emigrating to Israel only six years ago, and he spoke English with a soft French

accent." Not a monster at all, by customary standards.

The Zionist movement traditionally masqueraded as the national liberation movement of the Jewish people. It sought to free the Jews from oppression and humiliation by "ingathering" them into a Jewish state and by so doing, it said, the Jews would once again become active contributors to the progress of human civilisation. To underscore this noble vision, it called the ingathering of the Jews *aliyah*, meaning "ascent", to propagate the belief that the ingathering of the Jews into Palestine is an act of elevation for the Jewish people. But within the short span of six years, it brutalised a French immigrant who undoubtedly valued the humane traditions of an enlightened European society, until he shed them on his way to Israel.

Oppression is demeaning to the oppressed. It is equally degrading to the oppressor. The Irgunisation of Israel leaves no doubt about this matter.

Who will benefit from S. Yemen-Oman rapprochement?

By Ibrahim Noori

Reuter

BAHRAIN — Marxist South Yemen and pro-West Oman, neighbours at the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula but estranged for the past 15 years, have opened exploratory talks to normalise relations.

Ideological differences and mutual distrust are major obstacles to a rapprochement between the two strategically located countries, both linked to rival superpowers.

South Yemen, the Arab World's only communist state, has a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union. Oman, a member of the pro-West Gulf Cooperation Council, has a military agreement with the United States.

Junior Omani and South Yemeni officials met in Kuwait this month and agreed on higher level talks soon to tackle dividing issues. Oman demands the closure

of camps in South Yemen of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman. The leftist front waged a rebellion in Oman's southern Dhofar province until seven years ago when it was crushed.

An Oman foreign ministry spokesman said after the Kuwait talks: "The presence of the front in South Yemen is harmful to that country's relations with Oman."

The talks were arranged through the Gulf Cooperation Council, which in addition to Oman groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. Between them the six produce about a quarter of the non-Communist world's oil output.

Anti-Communist moves

The council was set up 14 months ago following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the Iran revolution and the Iran-Iraq war with security a top priority. Shortly after Soviet troops moved

into Afghanistan in December 1979, Oman signed an agreement with the United States allowing use of Omani ports and airports by U.S. troops in an emergency — the only council member to do so. U.S. troops held manoeuvres with Omani forces last December.

South Yemen President Ali Nasser Mohammed said recently: "American presence in the country (Oman) is one of the main obstacles to the establishment of diplomatic relations." His country, formerly British-protected South Arabia, has since independence in 1967 pursued pro-Soviet policies. It also entered into an anti-U.S. alliance with Libya and Ethiopia last year.

Facilities for Soviets

Western sources say the Soviet Indian Ocean fleet has facilities in South Yemen whose estimated 24,000-strong armed forces are Soviet-equipped and trained. Cubans and East Germans also

serve as military and security advisers, the sources say.

South Yemen, which has had border clashes with Oman, Saudi Arabia and North Yemen in the past, is a haven for leftist rebel or opposition groups from these and other Arab states.

The Kuwait talks followed a rare visit to Aden by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdulaziz who said later: "A lot will be done in the near future to create strong ties between the two sister countries (Saudi Arabia and South Yemen)."

Relations between the two have rarely been warm. At a trial in Aden last April some South Yemeni defendants alleged that they had been trained in sabotage by an American in Saudi Arabia — a charge denied by Riyadh. Ten defendants were executed after being convicted of conspiracy against the Aden government. Despite the accusation, Saudi Arabia donated \$5.2 million in

relief aid to victims of devastating floods in South Yemen.

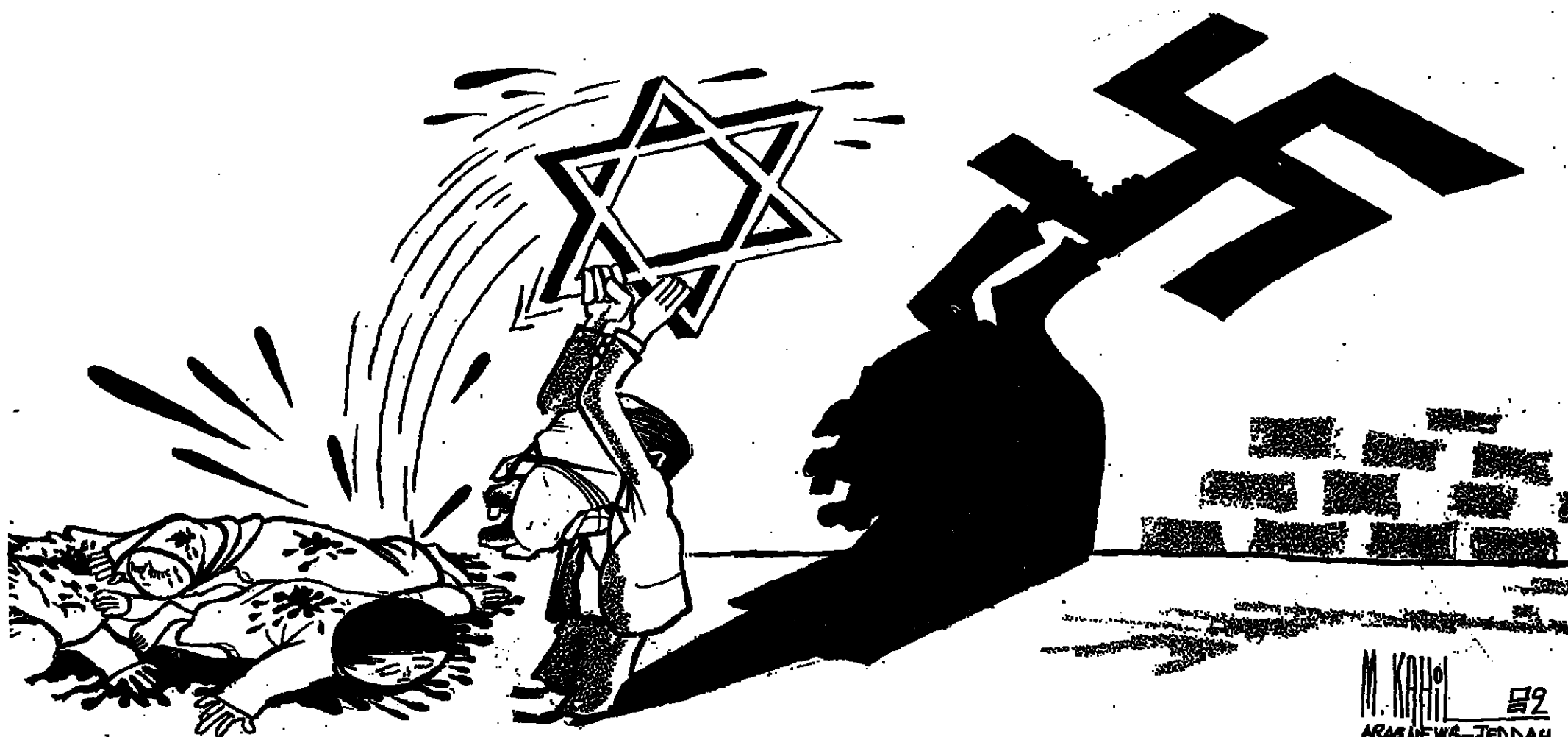
Gulf analysts said improved relations with Saudi Arabia and Oman could result in more financial aid to South Yemen from the Gulf countries.

Political pragmatism

The Kuwait talks and Prince Nayef's visit, the analysts said, reflected political pragmatism for economic reasons on the part of President Mohammed, who succeeded dogmatic Abdul Fattah Ismail two years ago.

Mountainous South Yemen, a country of 1.9 million tribal inhabitants, is poor and has few natural resources. Its main asset is the Aden oil refinery, which Iran recently agreed to use.

In contrast to its relations with Aden, Saudi Arabia has kept close to North Yemen, giving it millions of dollars in development and budgetary aid in an attempt to strengthen the country as a buffer zone.



Does food aid from West do any good to poor and needy in Third World?

By Sumi Krishna Chauhan

LONDON — Has food aid from the West done the Third World more harm than good? Today, more than 25 years since food aid began, many of those involved in its distribution are seriously questioning its benefits and the motives of the donor nations and the recipient governments themselves.

The West has used food aid to get rid of surplus, as a political weapon and to bolster shaky Third World regimes. In the developing countries the food handouts have been misappropriated by corrupt officials and more seriously have depressed agricultural development: the poorest section has gained only dubious benefits.

Brian W. Walker, director general of OXFAM—an organisation which was founded to help the starving and the malnourished—now says it is clear that the "indiscriminate or uncon-

trolled distribution of food aid can do more harm than good".

OXFAM consultant Tony Jackson believes food aid has stopped policy makers from concentrating on fundamental problems of underdevelopment and poverty like the catastrophic fall in food production in Africa. Food aid has encouraged African farmers to forget how to grow food. "They are being priced and taxed to underproduce", he says.

In a recent book, "Against the Grain", Jackson gathers together the experience of field workers from all over the world to make a passionate argument against the continuation of food aid as a weapon in the fight against poverty.

In another recent report commissioned by the World Council of Churches—which has also been involved in getting food to the hungry—its consultant Jonathan Fryer says if hunger is to be abolished in the Third World, the urban poor must have greater pur-

chasing power and the rural poor must have greater control over production and a higher profitability margin. This implies a social revolution "whose consequences many governments and churches are terrified to face". Food aid therefore becomes an easy temporary palliative.

EEC food aid

In yet another report—described as a "carefully documented catalogue of failure"—the European Economic Community's (EEC) Court of Auditors has severely criticised the community's mismanagement of food aid over the last 10 years.

Every year food worth well over \$2,000 million goes as aid to developing countries from the U.S., EEC members, Australia, Canada and Japan. Of this 70 per cent is given or sold concessional to governments—a form of budgetary support. The rest is distributed free for specific develop-

ment projects, channelled mainly through the World Food Programme (under the aegis of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation), the U.S. Catholic community's Catholic Relief Service (CRS) and the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE).

The simple Christian charity image of Western surpluses being transferred to calamity-stricken people in the Third World—but disaster relief accounts for only 10 per cent of the total food aid.

While all forms of food aid have been criticised, the recent protests have mainly been directed against "project" food aid—supposedly a tool for development. Much of the criticism comes from the field workers involved in these projects—food for work, mother and child health, and institutional feeding.

Bangladesh has the world's largest food for work programme. Public works such as the draining

and levelling of land have been undertaken. This is benefited the land owners who get the improvements and the free labour. The landless who labour on these projects get food for wages but very little real benefit. "unless you think it's spiritually virtuous", a field worker told an OXFAM official. The temporary employment masks the basic unemployment situation which it does nothing to change.

Feeding formula

Similar contradictions affect the food distributed through the mother and child health schemes. An OXFAM worker at a North Yemen medical centre says: "For four days a week mothers are told not to waste their money on infant formula and are encouraged to breast feed instead... and then you spend two days handing out imported food. It just doesn't make sense".

Institutional feeding is often

seen as a convenient and efficient use of imported food—a large proportion of U.S. sponsored food aid in Egypt, India, Upper Volta, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Haiti is distributed mainly through schools. This has occasionally improved school attendance but in most Third World countries the poorest children do not go to school because they have to work to help support their families. Moreover, food is provided only on school days—in Brazil this is only 144 days in the year. There is very little evidence to show that such supplementary school feeding has had any nutritional impact.

Even the strongest opponents of food aid want emergency supplies in times of disaster. However, this too can have unseen repercussions. For example, after the 1976 Guatemala earthquake both CRS and CARE field staff reported to their organisations that food was not needed—there had been a record harvest and local grain supplies were plentiful.

Yet, vast quantities of U.S. food aid poured into the country. The result was that the grain prices plummeted and the market was affected for several months.

EEC aid to India

India receives large quantities of EEC butter and milk powder which is reconstituted and supplements local supplies to the urban middle class under the Operation Flood programme—often quoted as one of the success stories of food aid.

Verghese Kurien, who had earlier pioneered cooperative dairying in India, told Jonathan Fryer quite openly that he had conceived Operation Flood because "I had this terrible vision of us being swamped with dairy food aid, which would completely undermine the work we had been doing... Who would buy our products, if all they had to do was to stand in a line and get free hand-

Few Third World countries have the infrastructure to withstand being swamped by food aid. The latest issue of the New African magazine reveals some details from the confidential EEC auditors' report—instances of wasteful supplies to countries which did not need them and, more alarming, the lobbing off of decaying food under the guise of aid. For example, Upper Volta has received weevil-ridden wheat and rice, rancid butter oil and milk powder unfit for human consumption.

Though criticism against food aid is not new, the serious questioning of its usefulness by some of the very groups which have been involved in its distribution is significant. As the old Chinese proverb says: "If you give a man a fish, he will live for a day; give him a net and he will live for a lifetime".

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SPORTS

Italy's Uncini aims to win his sixth motorcycle Grand Prix of the season

ANDERSTORP, Sweden (R) — Franco Uncini of Italy, already sure of the 500cc World Motorcycling Championship, will seek to put the icing on the cake by winning his sixth Grand Prix of the season here on Sunday.

Uncini, winner of last week's British Grand Prix, became certain to take the title when his only remaining rivals, American Kenny Roberts and Britain's Barry Sheene, were laid up with injuries.

But Uncini, who succeeds fellow Italian Marco Lucchinelli as world champion, could still face a hard ride on his Suzuki in the 112.5km race against American Freddie Spencer (Honda) and Graeme Crosby of New Zealand (Yamaha) in the Swedish Grand Prix.

Spencer was second and Crosby third at Silverstone with the New Zealander clocking the fastest lap despite painful injuries to his hands.

The Italian leads the championship with 103 points with Sheene and Roberts on 68 and Spencer on 57.

Roberts is unable to race here because of the hand injury he suffered in his crash at Silverstone, while Sheene is in hospital with two broken legs after crashing in practice for the British event.

But if much of the suspense has gone from the 500cc race in the absence of Roberts and Sheene, there will be plenty of excitement in the 125cc event, with Spaniard Angel Nieto on the brink of clinching the world crown.

Nieto on a Garelli is only one

point away from his 11th world title, though he was challenged all the way by fellow Spaniard Ricardo Tormo last week.

But the Spaniard is reported to be so confident of taking the point he needs that he has missed practice for the Swedish race.

The 350cc and sidecar events promise plenty of entertainment. Jean-Francois Balde of France leads the 350cc standings with 57 points but needs to be wary of Belgium's Didier de Radiguer, only eight points behind.

Rolf Biland and Kurt Walther of Switzerland are ahead with 45 points in the sidecar standings but West Germans Werner Schwazer and Anders Huber are hovering close behind with 40 points.

Connors, Gottfried have easy victories

COLUMBUS, Ohio (R) — Top-seeded Jimmy Connors and fourth-seeded Brian Gottfried breezed to easy victories Thursday to reach the quarter-finals of a \$100,000 men's Grand Prix tennis tournament.

Connors, the Wimbledon champion, needed only 63 minutes to beat his American countryman Tom Cain 6-1, 6-1. Connors plays American Hank Pfister in the quarter-finals.

Gottfried used a consistent serve and strong backhand passing shots to outlast fellow-American David Pate 6-1, 6-4. Gottfried will meet American Nick Saviano in the quarter-finals.

"I've been serving well," Gottfried said. "I've worked a lot on my serve lately. I have to serve well to play well."

Connors echoed those comments about himself after his victory. "I was hitting the big serves on grass at Wimbledon. As I hit more serves on this surface (hard courts) I'll go for some more big ones."

Saad Muhammad looking ahead to regain WBC title in rematch

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Former World Boxing Council (WBC) light-heavyweight champion Matthew Saad Muhammad will attempt to regain his title when he takes on Dwight Braxton in a rematch here Saturday night.

Saad Muhammad, 28, won the title from Marvin Johnson on a fourth-round knockout on April 22, 1979. He defended the title successfully eight times before losing to Braxton on December 19,

1981.

In his only fight since then Saad Muhammad stopped Pete McIntyre in two rounds last April 17.

Ironically Saad Muhammad, who was 2.7 kg overweight at the weight-in before he met Braxton, is now worried that he might be too light.

Before the Braxton fight Saad Muhammad went to a sauna bath and lost the excess weight, but complained afterwards that he

had lacked strength and stamina. By contrast earlier this week Saad Muhammad weighed in at 78 kg, 1.4 kg under the light-heavyweight limit.

Braxton has a career record of 17 wins, one loss and one draw. Saad has won 32 fights, lost four and drawn two.

Braxton has been guaranteed \$400,000 plus a percentage of the gate receipts as his purse while Saad will earn \$350,000.

Coe makes a secret comeback

NOTTINGHAM, England (R) — Olympic champion Sebastian Coe of Britain made a secret comeback after injury Thursday night and qualified to run the 800 metres at next month's European Athletics Championships.

But one unconfirmed report said that Coe would not risk competing in the 1,500 metres, the event he won at the 1980 Olympics, in Moscow.

Coe, who holds the 800 metres, mile and 1,000 metres world records, won a specially organised 800 metres race here in one minute 46.5 seconds—half a second inside the European qualifying time.

Coe's return after a six-week absence with a stress fracture of the leg was watched by fewer than 100 fellow athletes and coaches.

The race was arranged at the last minute as part of a coaching course.

Coe, who completed the last 200 metres in a fast 25.5 seconds, now seems certain to be named for the 800 metres when Britain pick their European Championship team, probably on Sunday.

He has already been selected to compete in both the 800 and 1,500 metres in the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane in October.

Arraya beats Wilander

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Twelfth-seeded Pablo Arraya of Peru beat third-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden 7-6, 7-6 Thursday in the third round of men's singles at the \$450,000 U.S. clay court tennis championships.

Wilander, 17, the French Open champion, had difficulty coping with the 20-year-old Arraya's great variety of strokes, including a blistering forehand and a surprisingly successful drop shot.

Arraya, 4th in the world rankings, now meets Spain's fifth-seeded Jose Higuera, who defeated Gilles Moretton of France 6-3, 6-3.

Second-seeded Jose Luis Clerc of Argentina had a tough time with the 17-year-old French junior, Guy Forget.

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The tender will be opened on Aug. 15, 1982 at 11:00 hrs. Tenderers willing to be present at the time of tender opening are welcome.

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Canada's Davis smashes six-year-old 200m breaststroke record at Guayaquil

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (R) — Canada's Victor Davis produced a searing last length to smash the six-year-old World record for the 200 metres breaststroke at the Guayaquil swimming championships.

A second world record was set when the U.S. men's team finally produced its best in the 4 x 100 metres freestyle relay to clip almost half a second off the previous best time set in 1978, also by the United States.

Davis, 18, from Guelph, Ontario, bided his time until the last third of the race before unleashing an astonishing spurt to finish in 2:14.77 minutes, breaking Britain David Wilkie's 1976 record of 2:15.11 minutes.

"I really drove for the wall," he said afterwards. "I didn't want the world record to get away from me at the end."

In Thursday night's three other finals the favourites all took the gold medals. Vladimir Salnikov of the Soviet Union and East German Ute Geweniger won narrow victories in the men's 400 metres freestyle and the women's 100 metres breaststroke respectively.

For the United States, world record-holder Mary Meagher took the gold medal as expected in the 100 metres butterfly.

The 100 metres breaststroke provided the unusual spectacle of two girls sharing the rostrum for the silver spot. Anne Ottenbrite of Canada and Kim Rhodenbaugh of the United States touched home in the identical time of 1:11.03 minutes, behind Geweniger's 1:09.14.

The American men swimmers had not had a good championship but Thursday night's relay performance was faultless. Chris Cavanaugh was off the block like an arrow, Robin Leamy stretched the lead to two metres. David McCagg increased it to four and the irrepressible Rowdy Gaines

streaked home.

The new record was 3:19.26 seconds compared with the 3:19.74 set by the United States at the last championships in West Berlin. The Soviet Union took the silver two and a half seconds behind and Sweden the bronze.

Geweniger, 18, who won the silver medal in the 200 metres breaststroke, was not over-enthusiastic about her 100 metres gold. "The time was okay, I would not say it was particularly noteworthy," she said.

"The 200 breast went very well, and after that I thought that the 100 would be very good—it was not, and I'm not quite sure why not."

The race was close throughout, with Geweniger only breaking away at the end to set a new world championship record.

Salnikov, world 400 and 800 metres record-holder, was given a tremendous battle by his compatriot Svyatoslav Semenov. He clinched it with a sprint finish, but only touched home 13 hundredths of a second ahead.

The 1.99-metre East German Sven Lodziewski had the best finish and took the bronze after looking almost as if he might catch the leaders.

Salnikov's time was a new championship record of 3:51.30 minutes with Semenov on 3:51.43 and Lodziewski 3:51.84.

Meagher, 17, from Louisville, Kentucky, also spent much of her race battling against a compatriot, Melanie Buddemeyer. In the end, yet another member of the phenomenal East German women's team, Ines Geissler, pipped the second American for the silver medal.

But the surprise of the evening was Davis. From the start he let Britain's Adrian Moorhouse and Gennadi Utenkov of the Soviet Union set the pace.

"I tried to keep the first

hundred metres very smooth and strong, and stay even or a touch ahead of the pack, stroke it into the 125 metres, and then take off," he told reporters.

His spurt left the other swimmers floundering, and the silver medalist, Robertas Zhulpa of the Soviet Union, was almost two seconds behind. John Moffet of the United States took the bronze.

"Actually I was meaning to win, the record just happened," Davis told reporters.

Davis comes from a boxing family. "I don't classify myself as a prize-fighter," he said. "But I classify myself as a fighter. All the way down the line, my family's been tough."

U.S. wins diving gold

Wendy Wyland of the United States won the platform diving gold medal with a steady and polished performance.

Her main rival, Xiaoxia Chen of China, who won Wednesday's elimination round, fluffed a number of dives in the final and finished fourth.

With all four Soviet and Chinese divers slipping in the closing rounds, it was left to East German's Ramona Wenzel to leap from seventh place in the qualifier to take the silver medal, well behind Wyland. China's second diver, Jihong Zhou, won the bronze.

Wyland, 17, who comes from Mission Viejo, California, gave the United States its third gold in three diving events at the championships.

"I expected a little more competition from Chen," she said afterwards. "She just blew a few dives. Today was a very bad day for her."

Both Chen and Zhou began with some superb performances, but as the eight rounds progressed

lost concentration and several of their entries into the water were ragged and not vertical. China only entered the International Amateur Swimming Federation (FINA) in 1980 but its divers have scored some astonishing successes since then. They have not lived up to expectations in Guayaquil.

The afternoon began with a surprise for 14-year-old Jennifer McArton of Ontario, Canada, who came 15th, three short of qualifying, in the elimination round.

Mexico's Estela de la Torre Borja and East German Katrin Zipperling injured themselves in practice in the morning. As the 14th placed girl, Jenny Tydale of Canada, was not at the pool, McArton found herself in the final at 10 minutes' notice.

McArton finished last, but seems certain to do well in the future.

The final was notable for a wide discrepancy in the marks given by the seven judges. One attempt by 19-year-old Wenzel was given 6.0 out of 10.0 by one judge and 9.0 by another.

Wyland, who was born in Jackson, Michigan, spent the wait between her eight dives listening to taped music on headphones and reading a book.

"I was trying to stay away from looking at it (the diving) and just concentrating on my own ballgame to see what I could do," she said. "It hasn't hit me yet, it probably will tonight—if you hear anyone scream, it'll be me."

Before her penultimate dive she had a nervous wait on top of the 10-metre board while one of the judge's chairs was moved.

"Things like that can really rattle you, just standing up there thinking about your dive," she said later. "I kept looking down to my coach Ron O'Brien and he kept looking up and smiling, just relaxing me."

Weaver to defend WBA title against top contender Dokes

NEW YORK (R) — Mike Weaver will defend his World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight title against the top contender, fellow-American Mike Dokes, on October 22 at a site to be selected later, promoter Don King announced Friday.

"We are looking at sites right now in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Dallas, Reno, Buffalo, Montreal and Cleveland," King said.

The promoter announced the bout after federal judge William Connor ruled in court here on Thursday that King had a valid and binding contract to stage a Weaver-Dokes fight.

Luis Batista Salas of Puerto Rico, chairman of the WBA's championship committee, testified in court that the WBA would not grant Weaver any further extension on his twice-postponed title match with American Randy Cobb, and that his next defence had to be against the leading available contender—Dokes, ranked number one by both the WBA and

the World Boxing Council (WBC).

Weaver and Cobb, ranked eighth by the WBA and fifth by the WBC, originally were to have met on June 2. But Weaver injured a shoulder in training and the match was re-scheduled for July 25. The Cobb suffered a cut upper lip in sparring and the bout was put off indefinitely.

King said Weaver would earn a purse of \$1.4 million. The promoter did not say what Dokes would get. Dokes is managed by Carl King, Don King's son.

Weaver, 30, of Los Angeles, has not defended his crown since he outpointed American James (Quick) Tillis in 15 rounds on October 3, 1981, in Rosemont.

He won the title by knocking out John Tate of the United States in the 15th round at Knoxville, Tennessee, on March 31, 1980. His only other defence was on October 25, 1980, in Bophuthatswana, when he stopped South African Gerrie Coetzee in the 13th round.

Hockenheim's race may prove that '82 is France's year

HOCKENHEIM, West Germany (R) — A French racing driver has never won the World Championship but the fast straights of Hockenheim, scene of Sunday's West German Formula One Grand Prix, could confirm the feeling that 1982 is France's year.

The quick circuit is as ideally suited to turbo engines as Le Castellet where Frenchmen driving Renaults and Ferraris took the first four places in the French Grand Prix two weeks ago.

Ferrari's Didier Pironi came third in that race, widening his championship lead to nine points, and another good performance at Hockenheim would see him emerge as firm favourite with four Grands Prix to go.

But many eyes will be on the Renault of Alain Prost, the pre-season championship favourite, who was dogged by bad luck during the early part of the campaign. Prost, after fighting back to third place in the title race with 25 points to Pironi's 39, will be looking for a chance to move within striking distance of his compatriot.

Prost was second in France behind team-mate Rene Arnoux, who defied Renault orders to let him pass Arnoux, with no realistic chance of taking the title himself,

is unlikely to be allowed to repeat his "error".

The track will not be to the liking of the McLaren team with their conventionally aspirated cars.

But drivers John Watson of Northern Ireland, second in the championship with 30 points, and Austria's Niki Lauda, fourth on 24, will be trying to coax that little bit extra out of their machines to meet the French challenge.

In Hockenheim's jubilee year, the home crowd will have a special attraction with a German engine competing in the event for the first time in 20 years.

The BMW turbo of World Champion Nelson Piquet's Brabham could even power the Brazilian to a popular victory.

Home fans will also be cheering West German Jochen Mass, who has recovered from injuries received when his march plunged into the crowd at Le Castellet, hurting 12 spectators.

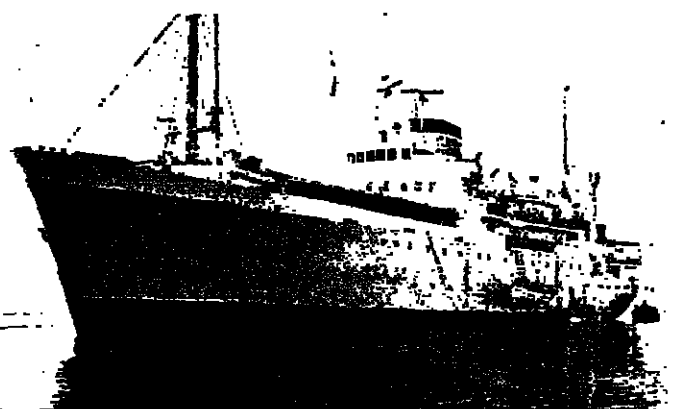
Hockenheim has spent 500,000 marks (\$200,000) on a new Chicane to slow the approach to the notorious east bend where Frenchman Patrick Depailler was killed in practice in 1980. The Chicane will reduce speeds from 280 kph to around 110 kph.

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EEC reaches agreement with U.S. on steel exports

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community and the United States have reached an agreement which would limit the community's steel exports to 5.76 per cent of the U.S. market over the next three years, diplomatic sources said Friday.

They said the accord, hammered out at talks in Washington this week between senior U.S. and Community officials, was subject to final approval by the U.S. and Community steel industries.

The agreement, which could remove a major source of strain on troubled transatlantic trade relations, was also subject to ratification by the governments of the 10 Community member states, they said.

The deal would lead to a marked reduction in Community steel exports to the United States over last year, when they took 6.4 per cent of the recession-hit U.S. market. The sources said the accord would cover 11 major steel products and would run from Oct. 1 of this year to the end of 1985.

Pipes and tubes would not be directly covered by the agreement, but it was expected that a more informal arrangement covering Community exports of these products would be agreed in further talks Friday in Washington.

European officials have consistently resisted U.S. pressure for pipes and tubes to be formally

covered, arguing that U.S. producers cannot satisfy domestic demand for the products, which anyway receive no subsidies within the community.

The accord would allow the U.S. administration to lift anti-subsidy duties ranging from 0.5 to 40 per cent imposed on June 10, which have threatened to cut off a vital outlet for the loss-making Community steel industry.

The steel dispute has deeply embittered transatlantic trade relations, which have been further soured by the U.S. embargo on technology for a Soviet-West European gas pipeline and a simmering conflict over subsidies on agricultural exports.

European community foreign ministers have said the steel conflict was based on "extreme and unilateral findings" in Washington. Diplomats have spoken of a crisis in the Western alliance, and Canada has called for a special meeting of NATO foreign ministers to examine the tensions.

The accord followed three days of talks in Washington between U.S. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige and a Community negotiating team headed by Industry Commissioner Etienne Davignon, External Relations Commissioner Wilhelm Haferkamp and senior trade negotiator Sir Roy Denman.

The sources here said Sir Roy briefed Community diplomats in

Washington on the accord last night. A telex message giving details of it was received by member states' missions to the Community this morning.

They said Community foreign or industry ministers might meet here early next week to ratify the accord.

Diplomats said they did not expect resistance from the Community and U.S. steel industries to the 5.76 per cent market share proposed by the accord as it had been arrived at in close consultation with them.

The U.S. industry, which has been working at under 50 per cent of capacity and is facing estimated losses of some \$3 billion this year, has said adequate protection from foreign imports is essential to its survival.

But the sources said the difficult problem of how the export cuts would be shared out among community producers remained to be resolved.

West Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, which were found to be largely unsubsidised in the U.S. findings, have said they will not exceed traditional export levels but have refused to reduce exports as part of any accord.

A series of meetings last week of the Community steel industry association, Eurofer, failed to resolve this issue. The sources said a further meeting might be called for the beginning of next week.

New docks for Jeddah

JEDDAH (OPECNA) — A \$62.86 million contract to build two docks for unloading livestock at Jeddah Islamic Port has been awarded to a Saudi company. The docks, one 400 metres and the other 100 metres long, should be completed within two years. The project also includes construction of a discharging station, canopies, equipment storehouses, workshops and incinerators. The contract was signed by the President of the Saudi Ports Authority, Fayez Badr.

\$50m Arab Bank aid to Zimbabwe

HARARE, Zimbabwe (OPECNA) — The Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa has pledged \$50 million to Zimbabwe to finance development projects. The assistance will be spread over several years. Arab Bank Representative Fayal Gharbi said on a recent visit to the country that Zimbabwe was now in a position to benefit from the bank's contribution to the economic development of non-Arab Africa.

Arab League increases ties with Islamabad

LAHORE (OPECNA) — The Arab League will help strengthen economic and commercial relations between Pakistan and Arab countries, the league's Deputy Secretary-General, Abdul Hassan Zalzalah, said here Thursday. Mr. Zalzalah, who is leading a league delegation to Pakistan, spoke of the possibility of joint ventures by Arab investors in industry and agriculture in Pakistan. A number of "practical proposals" had been formulated for submission to the league's economic and social council.

Lebanon, U.S. interest rates boost dollar

LONDON (R) — The dollar advanced strongly on foreign exchanges Friday because of mounting tension in Lebanon and signs that the recent decline in U.S. interest rates has faltered.

Meanwhile, the sharp fall in share prices on Wall Street Thursday triggered declines in stock markets around the world.

Traders said the interest rate factor and Israel's apparent refusal to ease the siege of Beirut, dampening hopes for an agreement to resolve the conflict, pushed the dollar above 2.50 West German marks and sent the British pound and the Japanese yen to their lowest levels against the U.S. currency this year.

The dollar usually benefits at times of high world tension as the most popular refuge for loose money. On Wall Street, concern that continuing high U.S. interest rates, which remain above the inflation rate, might further delay a hoped-for recovery in the depressed U.S. economy knocked the Dow Jones share index below the critical 800 mark Thursday.

The index closed at 795.85, down 7.61 points on the day and is now close to the two-year low of 788.62 recorded on June 18.

Since major U.S. banks cut their key lending rates by half a percentage point to 15 per cent last Monday, the third such reduction in a month in response to an easing in Central Bank monetary policy, Wall Street has fallen some 26 points.

Traders said poor July retail sales reported by major stores in the United States have combined with worries over interest rates to deflate hopes for a vigorous consumer-led recovery for the U.S. economy.

In London the Financial Times share index was down nearly 11 points around midday at 548.8, compared with Thursday's close. The Tokyo stock market has fallen 145.13 points in the past two days and closed Friday at 7,068.28, while in Sydney the index dropped 1.5 points to end trading at 467.8.

The prospect of the transatlantic differential in interest rates being maintained and possibly widening as European governments come under pressure to boost their ailing economies is fundamental to the U.S. currency's strength, dealers said.

The dollar was quoted at 2.5055 West German marks in London Friday, compared with its close in New York Thursday at 2.4890 and its 2.4850 finish here.

In an effort to stem the rise, the West German central bank sold \$35.85 million at the midday "fixing" as the dollar was set at 2.5043 marks, its highest for nearly a month, against 2.4741 Thursday.

The British pound started at \$1.7070, its lowest opening this year, after closing in New York at \$1.7167 Thursday and in London at 1.7142, while the yen slipped to 261.20 to the dollar, close to its lowest levels for 28 months after closing in New York at 260.05.

Dealers said recent West German unemployment figures, showing 7.2 per cent of the workforce out of work, the worst July figures for over 30 years, would increase pressure on the German authorities to cut interest rates.

The British government has already demonstrated its desire to see lower interest rates and big business here would like to see the pound lower against most other currencies except perhaps the dollar.

British banks have cut their major lending charges by a full percentage point to 11.5 per cent over the past month, following reductions by the Bank of England in its key money-market dealing rates. Further falls in bank charges are expected.

Rome to liquidate Banco Ambrosiano

ROME (R) — The Italian government Friday decided to put the financially troubled Milan bank, Banco Ambrosiano, into compulsory liquidation, Industry Minister Giovanni Marcora said.

Government economic ministers took the decision at a meeting here.

The Bank of Italy had previously resisted the enforced liquidation of the country's largest private bank because of its possible impact on international confidence in the Italian financial system.

Three state-appointed commissioners took over Ambrosiano after an investigation into the group's affairs revealed estimated debts of \$1.4 billion, much of it loaned to Latin America. The bank's President Roberto Calvi was found hanged under a Thames bridge in London in June.

The request for liquidation came from the bank of Italy's Governor, Carlo Ciampi, after it became clear no other solution was possible.

Mr. Marcora told reporters the

liquidation was approved at Friday's meeting of the 11-member interministerial committee for credit and savings, chaired by Treasury Minister Beniamino Andreotta.

Mr. Giovanni Battista Arduino, one of three state-appointed commissioners who have been running Ambrosiano since mid-June, said the commissioners had found no other way to save Banco Ambrosiano, which is faced with massive debt problems and a run on its deposits.

Seven Italian banks last month mounted an operation to rescue Ambrosiano and a bank spokesman said Thursday they planned to liquidate and reconstitute it as Nuovo Banco Ambrosiano spa.

Financial sources say the doubtful Latin American loans were made to finance houses controlled by the Vatican Bank, the Istituto Per le Opere di Religione (IOR).

Earlier Mr. Arduino said that under an enforced liquidation the commissioners would ensure that all lenders to the Milan-based

parent company, including foreign creditors, would be paid in full.

The three commissioners running Banco Ambrosiano had in the past weeks worked to safeguard the interests of depositors and creditors, Mr. Arduino said.

But he could not say what was in store for the bank's 40,000 shareholders, including the Vatican-controlled IOR with the fourth largest stake.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices moved lower across the board, mainly in response to the overnight falls on Wall Street, dealers said.

Selling was light, but most issues ended at the day's low point and the FT index at 1500 showed a fall of 11.1 at 548.6.

Barclays reacted further to Thursday's lower interim profits with a fall of 1-1/2p to 376, and other leading banks lost 2p to 5p. Other large losers included Glaxo, down 15p at 720 after 710, and Beecham which lost 10p to 285.

Gold shares were quietly mixed while North Americans were mostly higher.

Blue Circle, weak Thursday along with other cement producers on the decision to hold prices unchanged on January 1, 1983, fell another 27p to 443 after news the Mexican peso is to be floated from Friday. The company has substantial interests in Mexico, dealers said.

Turner and Newall lost another 2p to 34p and Reed International, depressed Thursday after the first quarter statement, lost another 8p to 264. ICI was 4p easier at 286.

Government bonds were down around 1/2 point, following the weaker trend in U.S. bonds, but turnover was small after a fairly active opening, dealers said.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.7080/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2510/13	Canadian dollars
	2.5035/45	West German marks
	2.7575/95	Dutch guilders
	2.1350/80	Swiss francs
	47.77/80	Belgian francs
	6.9650/9750	French francs
	1399.00/1400.00	Italian lire
	260.80/261.00	Japanese yen
	6.1790/1810	Swedish crowns
	6.7345/65	Norwegian crowns
	8.7135/60	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	345.60/346.10	U.S. dollars

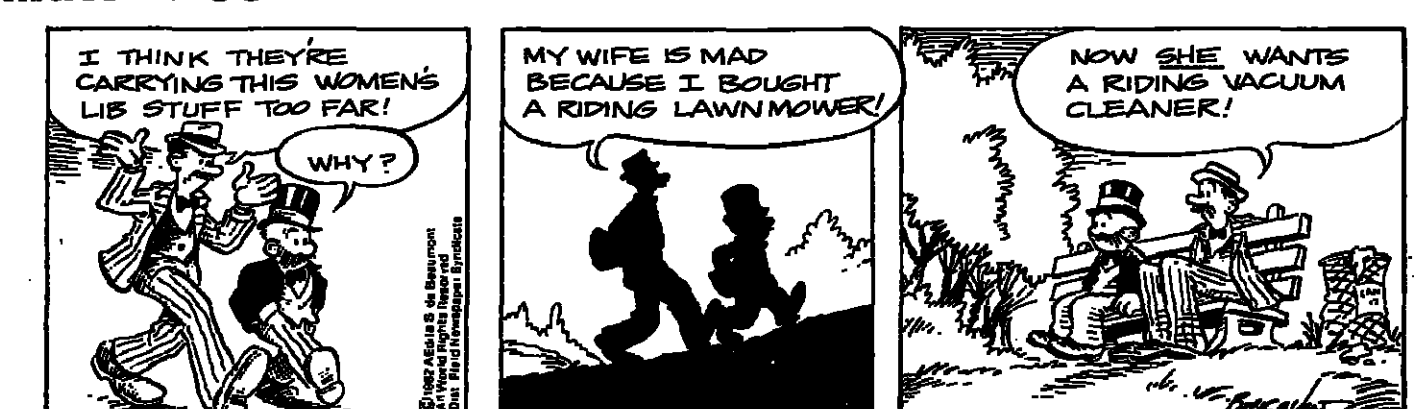
THE BETTER HALF. By Vinson



Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUG. 7, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to consider how you can place yourself more in tune with up-to-date methods that could help you advance in career matters. Take positive steps to gain your aims.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Look over your environment and make plans for improvement. Make contacts that will improve your social life.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be sure not to disturb anyone who has power over your affairs or you could regret it later. Safeguard your reputation.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be sure you first investigate thoroughly any new project you want to engage in. Spend your money wisely.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Some family members may not agree with your views now, so try to understand theirs better.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Good day to look over your business records and make sure everything is in proper order. Think constructively.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take added steps to improve your environment. Show more interest in civic affairs and gain added respect.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make long-range plans that could give you added income in the days ahead. Plan how to gain your most cherished aims.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Show appreciation to those who have done you favors in the past. Be sure to keep promises made to others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You are filled with new ideas but you have to study them better before you put them in operation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Not a good day for serious talks with allies, since they are busy with other things. Be more willing to cooperate with others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't try to force your ideas on others and avoid getting unexpected rebuffs. Express happiness with congenials.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Make plans to have more favorable conditions around you in the days ahead. The evening is fine for social activities.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who can understand both sides of a problem and intuitively will know how best to solve it. The field of law is particularly good in this chart. Give spiritual and ethical training early in life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Geri S. Harris

ACROSS

1 Far from speedy

5 Masochist

9 Haggard

12 "— fan tutti"

13 Soap plant

15 Grimace

16 School type: abbr.

17 Book for the modern ms.

19 Tries to escape

21 Sow

22 French river

23 Lupino of films

28 Dynamite

27 Child's apron

30 Certain chickens

35 Excellent

36 Have a fever

40 Arabian port

41 Cocktail

42 Teutonic: abbr.

43 Enraged

46 Do with: metric

47 Eagle's nest

48 As scheduled

54 Outdo

58 Exhausts

59 American patriot

60 Kazan

61 List of candidates

62 Flying toy

63 Old soldier

64 Ages

65 Blind a falcon

DOWN

1 Rascal

2 Not widespread

3 Japanese city

4 Enlarge

5 — Harl

6 Cupid

7 Water plant

8 Bird of prey

9 Half: prof.

10 Warm up

11 Sea bird

14 Impish

15 Knowledge handed down

18 Accustomed

20 Walking stick

24 Sandra or Ruby

25 Extension

27 Boxing match

28 Inscription for Jesus

29 Meat

30 Boost

31 Boorish

32 Lulu

33 Fleming

34 Health resort

35 Philippine people

37 Ecological initials

38 Crimson

39 Fire

40 Frau's husband

44 Opera highlights

45 Mix with people

47 Handle

48 Samantha of movies

50 Niche

51 Pretty one

52 Make one

53 A Ford

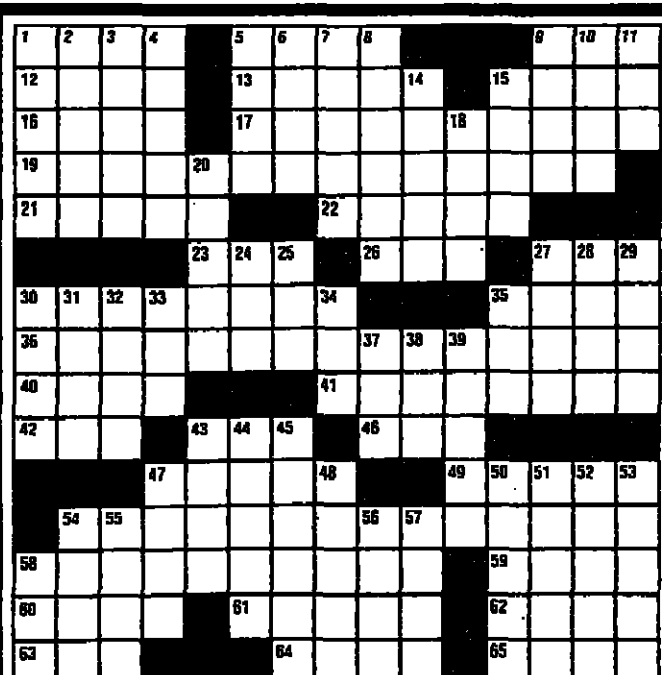
54 — of thumb

55 One

56 Brittle

57 Cool drinks

58 Gun a motor



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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CROFE

BAIDE

LIDIAN

TIPPUL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VAGUE DROOP FLORID CAUGHT

Answer: An animal you wouldn't want to see cross your path—A ROAD HOG

WORLD

Spadolini coalition collapses

ROME (R) — Giovanni Spadolini, Italy's first non-Christian Democratic prime minister since the end of World War II, is expected to resign Saturday, political sources said Friday.

The sudden fall of his 13-month-old government follows a decision Thursday night by the seven Socialist ministers to quit the five-party coalition, the protest against a parliamentary defeat of financial measures agreed only last Saturday by the cabinet.

"Italy is virtually ungovernable," Socialist Party leader Bettino Craxi said.

The fall of its 41st post-war government throws Italy into a new period of political and economic instability. New elections are now widely tipped for the autumn.

Mr. Spadolini, leader of the small but influential Republican Party, flew to the Italian Alps Friday to brief President Sandro Pertini, himself a Socialist, on the crisis.

Mr. Pertini, 85, immediately decided to break off his holiday and Mr. Spadolini is expected to hand his resignation to him after a cabinet meeting Saturday, the sources said.

Looking sad and resigned, President Pertini told reporters he planned to start political consultations in search of a new government on Monday. In the meantime he is expected to ask Mr. Spadolini, 57, to remain in office in a caretaker capacity.

Although the fall of the government was sudden it came as no surprise to political observers.

The two main coalition partners—the dominant Christian Democrats and the Socialists—have been involved in a long power struggle which brought the government to the brink of collapse twice this year alone.

The latest crisis erupted on Wednesday when Socialist-promoted financial measures, previously agreed within the

cabinet, were defeated in the chamber of deputies (parliament) in a secret vote in which at least 30 coalition deputies joined the ranks of the opposition.

The expected resignation of Mr. Spadolini falls into Italy's summer holiday recess, when virtually the whole country comes to a standstill.

With tourists revenues flowing in and the Lira relatively strong in the European Monetary System, Italy may be spared a drama on the currency front. But its serious structural problems, like unemployment and an increasing budget deficit, will remain unresolved.

A caretaker government would also be in no position to tackle such important issues as the controversial purchase of Soviet natural gas, delayed since the government imposed a "pause of reflection" last December following the declaration of martial law in Poland.

Prospects for a quick solution of the political crisis look bleak. No party has a big enough majority to rule without the support of at least three other parties.

The deep divisions between Christian Democrats and the Socialists are generally considered irreconcilable and the Socialists have been mentioning new elections as the only way out of political stalemate.

The Christian Democrats, forced to cede the premiership to Mr. Spadolini last June in the wake of a scandal over a secret Masonic lodge, have been quick to announce their verbal opposition to premature elections, not due before 1983.

But the Socialists believe that the 30 "snipers" who voted on Wednesday night against the financial measures were Christian Democrats, fully aware that this could spell the end of the government.

Hiroshima, Nagasaki mayors protest U.S. nuclear test

HIROSHIMA, Japan (R) — The mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki protested Friday to the United States after a U.S. underground nuclear test was conducted on the eve of a memorial service here to the victims of the world's first atomic attack.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki were devastated at the end of World War II, each by a single U.S. atomic bomb.

Over 40,000 people gathered Friday beneath the spot where the Hiroshima bomb exploded exactly 37 years ago in a silent one-minute prayer for the dead, who number at least 151,689 according to city records.

The crowd reacted angrily when news arrived of the U.S. test at the Yucca Flat site near Las Vegas.

Hiroshima's mayor, Mr. Takashi Araki, called for an end to such tests. He said he was filled with indignation on receiving a report of the test during the

memorial service.

He immediately sent a telegram of protest to the U.S. embassy in Tokyo, calling on the U.S. to stop such tests and play a leading role in bringing about the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Mayor Hitoshi Motojima of Nagasaki sent a similar protest to the U.S. embassy.

The U.S. test, on the 19th anniversary of the signing of a limited test ban treaty by Britain, the U.S. and the Soviet Union in 1963, shook Las Vegas hotels 113 kilometres away.

The force of the blast was seven times that experienced over Hiroshima on the morning of Aug. 6, 1945.

On Monday a similar memorial service will be held in Nagasaki, to mark the dropping of the second U.S. atomic bomb. Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki is scheduled to attend.

Kenyans overcome problems of abortive coup

NAIROBI (R) — People streamed to work in Nairobi Friday in a sign that life was returning to normal after last weekend's failed coup.

Hundreds of cars poured into the capital past armed police and troops who have been on guard since Kenya air force rebels attempted to oust President Daniel arap Moi's four-year-old government before dawn on Sunday.

People had been urged to return to work and government ministries counted employees to see whether any were missing.

Police appealed to citizens with missing relatives to check whether they were among bodies in the mortuaries.

President Moi said Thursday that 129 people died in the shooting and looting that followed the coup attempt and that iden-

tification of bodies was continuing.

Government troops continued to search outlying suburbs and townships for rebels who escaped when the army put down the uprising.

Hundreds of people have appeared in court on charges of looting shops and properties in the wake of the rebellion. Sentences have ranged from 18 months to five years.

President Moi has accused students of supporting the rebels and joining in the looting. He has closed Nairobi university until further notice.

The official Kenya News Agency (KNA) quoted the president as saying that students found loitering away from their home areas would be regarded as causing a public nuisance.

12th Communist Party congress begins on Sept. 1 in China

PEKING (R) — The long-awaited 12th Chinese Communist Party congress, expected to further the pragmatic policies implemented since Mao Tse Tung's death six years ago, will begin on Sept. 1, a foreign ministry spokesman said Friday.

He gave no details of the agenda, but indicated that some elderly officials would step down as part of the policy of introducing fresh blood into the Chinese bureaucracy, which is dominated by administrators in their 70s and 80s.

The spokesman said the meeting would approve a new party constitution. The present version enshrines the now discarded concept of dictatorship of the proletariat.

This concept is seen as reflecting an extreme leftist viewpoint as it excludes progressive intellectuals and other non-members of the working class from exerting power in the party. The spokesman gave no details of the new constitution. He said the decision to hold the congress was made at a plenary session of the party Friday in Peking.

The congress will be the first

since August 1977, when a sweeping purge put power firmly in the hands of moderates and away from diehard Maoists.

The spokesman said the plenary session "decided to extend cordial regards and high respects" to two elderly and ailing veteran revolutionaries, Liu Bocheng, aged 91, and Cai Chang, 82, who are retiring from the political scene.

Gen. Liu, a hero of the war against the Japanese from 1937 to 1945, is almost blind and his position on the party politburo is purely honorary. Cai Chang, one of the few women participants on the Chinese Communists' long march of 1935, is honorary president of the All-China Women's Federation.

The politburo includes several members of a similar age who are expected to resign at the congress. Several of the party's six vice-chairmen are also old and sick, including senior vice-chairman Ye Jianying, 85, who has strongly opposed attempts to make him resign.

Vice-Chairman Deng is himself aged 77, but so far there has been no firm indication of whether he

3 IRA London bomb suspects detained

LONDON (R) — Police questioned two men and a woman Friday in connection with two Irish guerrilla bomb attacks that killed 11 British soldiers in central London last month, a police spokesman said.

He said the three were detained in London early Thursday under the prevention of terrorism act. He did not say whether they were Irish or whether they might be charged.

Under the act, they can be held without charge for 48 hours or, with the approval of the home secretary (interior minister), up to one week.

The Irish Republican Army (IRA), which has waged a violent guerrilla campaign in Northern Ireland and mainland Britain to try to force the withdrawal of British troops from the province, said it planted the London bombs on July 20.

One bomb, in Regent's Park, killed seven British army bandmen giving a lunchtime concert. The other, in busy Hyde Park, killed four mounted soldiers of the queen's household cavalry.

2 French ships collide in Calais

CALAIS, France (R) — Two French cross-channel car ferries collided head-on early Thursday off Calais and five people were hurt, the operators said.

The Chantilly, heading for Dover in England, and the Cote d'Azur, heading for Calais, collided between three and five miles from the harbour, a spokesman for the joint Sealink-French railways company said.

Two seamen and three passengers were injured, but not seriously, he added.

Eyewitnesses said the shock of the collision was extremely violent and that the Chantilly immediately began to list. Both ships were badly damaged but returned safely to Calais.

New president takes over in Colombia today

BOGOTA (R) — Conservative Belisario Betancur takes over Saturday as Colombia's president with the avowed aim of ending 'left-wing guerrilla violence that has ravaged this South American country for decades.

The new president, who was born into a poverty-stricken peasant family, won last May's presidential elections on a broad platform of national reconciliation and has pledged to offer an amnesty to the estimated 3,000-4,000 guerrillas.

The amnesty will test Mr. Betancur's ability to assert his will over the armed forces and the Right wing of his Conservative Party.

Military hardliners oppose any negotiation with guerrillas, whom they would like to see defeated in action, political sources said.

Mr. Betancur, 59, who assumes office after eight years of Liberal rule, has also promised to push through social reforms during his four-year term to prevent a resurgence of political violence.

He has pledged special measures to stimulate agriculture and labour intensive industries to stem growing unemployment.

A large proportion of Colombia's 27 million people live in abject poverty which has spawned various guerrilla movements.

One Liberal dissident said that 35 per cent of the country's labour force was either unemployed or earning an income below the poverty line.

The new president has a deep dislike of corruption and wastage. He has already announced that a firm hand will be kept on public spending and that further growth of state organisations will be checked.

Economists said this could be done by running down Colombia's foreign currency reserves estimated at \$5 billion or by increasing the foreign debt which stands at about \$6.2 billion.

Mr. Betancur will also aim to boost economic growth which dipped to 3.2 per cent last year from a high of 8.9 per cent in 1978 at the peak of a boom in coffee prices.

Plans to improve growth include the expansion of public works projects, reduced interest rates to priority development sectors and a reduction of state controls on industry, economic sources said.

They added that Colombia had the best credit rating in Latin America with its foreign debt well covered by reserves and because of its self-sufficiency in food and energy.

This cushions Colombia against fluctuations in commodity prices which have been the scourge of economies in developing countries, they added.

Promising signs of new mineral resources, including the discovery of coal, nickel and copper fields, should lead to increased exports and help reduce dependency on coffee as the chief foreign exchange earner. Coffee now accounts for about half of Colombia's export earnings.

In foreign affairs, Mr. Betancur has said he does not intend to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba.

These were broken off last year by outgoing President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala who accused Cuba of supplying arms and training guerrillas of the M-19 movement, the most notorious in Colombia.

NEWS IN BRIEF

ASALA chief dies

BEIRUT (R) — The guerrilla leader of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) was killed in Israeli shelling on his west Beirut headquarters on July 30, an ASALA statement said Thursday. The statement said Hagoop Hagopian—the guerrilla leader's nom de guerre—was killed along with one of his aides. ASALA said its commitment to an independent Armenia would not be affected by Hagopian's death, and it called on Armenians everywhere, especially in France, to pray for his soul. ASALA directs its attacks at Turkish diplomats and institutions in revenge for the alleged massacre of Armenians by Turks in the 1910s.

Somalia accuses Ethiopia of attack

MOGADISHU (R) — Somalia has accused Ethiopia of attacking a north west border village for the first time in month-long border clashes so far confined mainly to central regions of Somalia. A defence ministry statement said the attack was beaten off on Wednesday but gave no details of casualties. Ethiopia has denied Somali charges that its troops are involved in the fighting and says the attacks are the work of guerrillas fighting to topple Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre.

Greek leader to visit Romania

ATHENS (R) — Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu will pay an official visit to Romania from Nov. 2 to 4, the prime minister's office said Thursday. Since he came to power last October, Mr. Papandreu has visited Yugoslavia and Bulgaria to discuss closer bilateral ties, regional cooperation and the possibility of making the Balkan peninsula a nuclear-free zone. President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania visited Greece last May and discussed arms limitation and the proposed nuclear-free zone with President Constantine Karamanlis and Mr. Papandreu.

Earthquake hits northern Chile

SANTIAGO (R) — A strong earthquake struck northern Chile Friday, causing panic in several towns but leaving no casualties and only causing slight damage, para-military police said. The seismological department of the University of Chile said the tremor registered between six and seven degrees on the Mercalli scale and its strongest impact was felt in the town of Caldera, 850 kilometres north of Santiago.

Scottish legend proven wrong by native Scotsman

LONDON (R) — A Scotsman poured cold water on his country's greatest legend Thursday when he suggested the Loch Ness monster was nothing more than an ancient pine log. The supposed monster, affectionately known by Scots as Nessie, has attracted scientists and curious tourists to the loch (lake) in the Scottish highlands for decades. Many people claim to have seen a huge, eel-like creature over the years and a number of hazy photographs show something resembling a giant lizard. But Scottish engineer Robert Craig, writing in the latest edition of the British New Scientist magazine, said he believed Nessie was an ancient pine log whose "snout" and "fins" were lumps of resin. The great depth of Loch Ness, about 250 metres, would create pressure on the pine and occasionally fill it with gas, pushing it to the surface. There it would expel the gas with the kind of "snort" often described by those who claim to have spotted the monster, the engineer wrote.

2 thieves burnt by Indonesian villagers

JAKARTA (R) — Two men were burnt to death by angry villagers who caught them trying to steal a bicycle, the newspaper Kompas reported Thursday. The two were chased by the bicycle's owner through rice fields in Kebumen, south east of Jakarta, and police later found their charred bodies under a heap of burnt straw. The newspaper quoted a witness as saying that about 150 people attacked the would-be thieves, beat them to a pulp and then set them ablaze.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES E. GOREN

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East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ QJ4
♥ 5
♦ Q8652
♣ QJ75

WEST **EAST**
♦ A95 ♠ 108732
♥ 42 ♣ 10763
♦ KJ9 ♠ A
♠ A10932 ♣ K64

SOUTH
♦ K6
♥ AKQJ98
♦ 10743
♠ 8

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 NT Pass
4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

Bridge is a strange game. You never can tell how a play might boomerang later in the hand.

This hand is from the Vanderbilt Team Championship, the premier event on the annual bridge calendar. South's rebid of four hearts is the action of a man who believes that all things will go right for him. However, in terms of playing strength, the hand was much better than the point count might have suggested. A smattering of cards in dummy in the right places could easily have resulted in a laydown game.

West did not relish the prospect of having to make the opening lead. Since declarer's trump suit rated to be solid, a heart lead might have been the safest proposition. However, West hit on the deceptive lead of the jack of diamonds.

Declarer was not overly taken with his dummy. The club cards were all wasted, and dummy did not even have a king, let alone an ace. Still, bridge is a strange game.

The jack of diamonds was covered with the queen and taken by the ace. East shifted to his fourth-best spade, and the king lost to West's ace. West continued with the king of diamonds and followed with the nine.

To the untutored eye it might seem that East should ruff to insure a one-trick set, but that's not what happened at the table! Because of the opening lead, East placed his partner with the ten of diamonds, and he was reluctant to ruff his partner's "sure winner" with what could possibly be a natural trump trick. So East discarded a spade!

To his great surprise, declarer was able to win the ten of diamonds, draw trumps and discard a club on dummy's fifth diamond. As a result, he wrapped up a game on a hand where he seemed doomed to a two-trick set.

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After 16-year bush war, Namibian independence is in sight

By David Reid

Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — Withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola is the crucial issue in current attempts to achieve a peaceful settlement in South West Africa (Namibia).

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha says the backstage negotiations over the territory's independence from South Africa have reached a critical stage.

Mr. Botha said in Windhoek that a target date of Aug. 15 had been set for a ceasefire in the 16-year bush war between South African-led forces and the black nationalist guerrillas of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO).

According to leaks by internal Namibian political leaders briefed in Windhoek by Mr. Botha, all parties concerned in a settlement have tentatively agreed on the Aug. 15 target date.

This would be followed by month's trial before arrival of a projected United Nations force to monitor the ceasefire and supervise constituent assembly elections some seven months later for a free and independent Namibia.

Cuban troops issue

But in confirming the Aug. 15 target, Mr. Botha told reporters several outstanding issues had to be resolved before a final decision. And it was clear from an earlier statement that for South Africa the Cuban troops issue was the key.

South Africa has insisted that the estimated 18,000 to 20,000 Cuban troops leave Angola, Namibia's northern neighbour and SWAPO's main base for operations there, before Namibia achieves freedom.

But Angola, SWAPO and Cuban leader Fidel Castro have been equally adamant in rejecting any link. And Dr. Castro said this week there could be no Cuban withdrawal from Angola before the South Africans pulled out of Namibia, a vast former German territory which they have ruled for more than 60 years.

In an equally tough statement in the Namibian capital, Mr. Botha accused SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma of ordering the assassination of top Namibian internal leaders and a sabotage campaign in the territory as it approached

independence.

The continued presence of Cuban troops in Angola encouraged such "repugnant acts" and made the issue of their withdrawal even more urgent, he said.

South Africa wanted to clear up outstanding issues as soon as possible, but if SWAPO killed internal leaders, Pretoria would have to reconsider its stand, he said.

Western countries seeking a Namibian deal — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada — have been hoping that the Cuban issue,

NEWS ANALYSIS

which is not part of their mandate, can be solved in parallel negotiations in which the U.S. and Angola are playing a key role.

The broad shape of a possible compromise appeared to come in leaks by the internal leaders after their talks with Mr. Botha and South African Defence Minister Gen. Magnus Malan.

The internal party sources said the plan in effect provided for a simultaneous pull-back of Cubans from Angola and South Africans from Namibia before Namibian elections next April or May. South

African police and Pretoria's administrator-general Danie Hough would remain in the territory until independence.

The internal leaders said agreement depended on Angola's readiness to sign guarantees, backed by the U.S. that the Cubans would leave before the projected elections.

Withdrawal plan

Once a ceasefire was declared, and during the month's trial period, Cuban troops would pull back to a line no farther south than the 14th parallel about 400 kilometres north of the Namibian border.

In turn SWAPO guerrillas would withdraw to a line along the same latitude as the Angolan port of Mocimede about 240 kilometres north of the border.

Mr. Botha has said that issues still being discussed in the Western peace plan were how to ensure U.N. impartiality, financial support for an independent Namibia, the status of U.N. personnel, the composition, functions and operational aspects of the U.N. force, and the reciprocal release of detainees.

Opinion poll favours Spanish Socialists

MADRID (R) — Spain's opposition Socialist Party would easily oust the ruling Centrist Party if general elections were held now, according to an opinion poll published Friday.

The survey, in the daily Diario 16, said the Socialists would come to power for the first time in 43 years and the ruling party would collapse if the elections, widely expected before the end of the year, were held now.

The poll said the Socialists, who have not been in power since the 1936-39 civil war, would win 37 per cent of the votes compared with seven per cent for the Union of the Democratic Centre (UCD).

The Right-wing Popular Alliance (AP) Party would emerge as the second political force with 10.7 per cent, and the Communists would poll only 1.7 per cent, according to the survey. A general election is due by next April, but many politicians expect the Centrist government, weakened by divisions and defections, to call an early election before the end of this year.